England

expects... a

wife-beater

to stay in

decent

obscurity

ily bruised with her arm in a minds of everyone. Even Ger-

He had a cleao shot at an open

goal but Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, failed spectac-

ularly, according to thousands

of the more discerning fans of

His inclusion of Paul Gas-

coigne, alleged wife-beater and

champion "oik", in the England

squad for its World Cup quali-

fying match next week has un-leashed widespread outrage.

in a Radio Five Live poll yesterday said Hoddle was wrong

to include Gascolgne. In a poll

of more than 1,000 people for

Teletext, 71 per cent said Hod-

dle should not have picked the

was pictured last month heav-

sling after a reported con-

Angry women's groups at-

tacked Hoddle for putting foot-

ball before the safety of women.

and accused him of condoning

domestic violence, "Winning a

match is obviously more im-

portant..." Julie Bindel of the

International Conference on

Violence and the Abuse of

With the nation reported to he in moral free-fall and its

schools apparently over-run by

violeot pupils, Hoddle, a

celebrity Christian, had the

Women said.

tretemps with her drunken

spouse in a Scottish hotel.

footballer, whose wife Sheryl

Almost two-thirds of callers

the beautiful game.

ference. his critics argue.

Excluding Gazza from the

national squad would have sig-

nalled public rejection of the

worst excesses of the troubled

ly and personally, in recent

weeks. "Forget moral guid-

ance and contracts for good be-

haviour, not picking Gazza for

England would have had a

higger impact," said one dis-llusioned teacher of teenage

This is an England team, af-ter all, which is still riding high

on the euphoria of its famous

defeat by Germany in the Eu-

ropean Championship in June.

Then the valiant and unflagging

efforts of the players - especially

Gazza - won the hearts and

maine Greer was moved to eu-

logise the team, describing Paul

Gascoigne as the lovable "Just William" of the side.

opportunity presented to him.

Hoddle yesterday was accused

of endorsing Yob Culture and

canonising Gazza, as its patron

saint. This peroxide-enhanced.

cerebrally challenged role mod-

el joins a recovering alcoholic

(Tony Adams) and a reformed

drug addict and gambler (Paul

Merson) in the squad, elevible

to represent their country

Sport, page 32

against Georgia next week.

But instead of grasping the

star's behaviour, professional-

1984-85 Uefa Cap

1990-91 Cup-Winners' &

1991-92 Cup-Winners't Walled Or 1992-93 Uefa Cup

Cup

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Loyalist leader salutes his old IRA enemy

Could Irish terrorists ever be reconciled? - Graveside oration gives hope

uruers in a quiet irisii cout try churchyard yesterday heard a moving tribute from across the religious, and political divide. when a Loyalist leader gave the graveside oration at a former IRA leader's funeral.

It was a rare moment in polities, when differences that once drove adversaries to arms are set aside. Gusty Spence, the former UVF leader who once served a prison sentence for the murder of a Catholic harman, came unannounced to the edge

of the grave of the former IRA border brigade chief Jim Lynch and spoke with quiet dignity of the loss of an enemy who had become a close friend.

Many among the 150 mourners at St Michael's Church in Cootehill, County Cavan, were unaware of who the elderly speaker was until the poignant story of the friendship between the two men and their families was revealed by Mr Lynch's relatives. Mr Lynch died on Wednesday after a brief illness, aged 72.

Mr Spence told the mourners, "Jim Lynch and I were friends. I am not here to deify the man. He was a simple man, but although not wealthy he was wealthy in his friends and in his love of his country.

The two of us were from different traditions," Mr Spence. httermines & New Year Made to be unionist tradition, and to say than and Mar District College to know him, and that I learned to know him a learned to know him at 4 an a poisson of the land of the spirit.

ORK O A Description of the property of the state of the property of the proper

At the going down of the sun and in the morning/We will remember them. They shall not A family friend said later

"People were very moved by that and asked "Who was that? Mr Lynch was officer m command of the Cavan-Monaghan brigade of the IRA during the border campaign in the late 1950s. Dropping out of republican activity, he became a salesman with the Dublin cake firm

In the Seventies Mr. Lynch had become involved in crosshorder initiatives that saw Protestant children from the most deprived parts of Shankill Road area of Belfast spend summer holidays at camps in the Irish Republic in the company of Catholic children at Lynch's

nome village of Cootehill. The two men met through a common acquaintance, Ireland's late Roman Catholic Primate, Cardinal Tomas O'Fiaich, who had met Spence in prison at a time when the UVF man was losing faith in violence as a means of achieving political

This unlikely dialogue led to a celebrated present from the Loyalist of a prison delicacy, tobacco soaked in poteen, to the fellow pipe-smoking cleric. Spence told the Cardinal gleefully it was made illicitly in a secret still by the Loyalist inmates in the Maze Prison and drunk with permission from commanders on special

occasions." Spence's ensuing dialogue with O'Fiaich, a former university lecturer in history and a regular visitor to H-Block prisoners led to the UVF man becoming aware of Lynch and his parallel abandonment of violence in favour of efforts to bridge the community divide. O'Finich supported Lynch's

summer camps project.
Mr Lynch's Yorkshire-born wife Norma told The Independent her husband and Spence wrote to each other some years ago, then spoke on the telephone. "Then we went to meet them [Mr and Mrs Spence]. Both men shared a strong interest in Irish history. Everything was history, history,

Years before the 1994 ceasefires Cardinal O'Fiaich "told Jim that if there was ever to be hope of peace in Ireland Gusty Spence was the man who would do a lot to make it happen," she

Norma Lynch said her husband "believed, as Wolfe Tone (the Protestant founder of Irish Republicanism) argued, in re-placing the name of Protestant, Catholic and dissenter with the common name of Irishmen. It people would get together."



Gascoigne: His inclusion in England squad after admitting wife beating has raised a storm Photograph: Jasper Juiner/Reuter

Fear of outright war after Tutsi offensive in Zaire

Zaire and Rwanda were heading yesterday for a conflict that could engulf central Africa, as the Rwandan army and its local allies took control of large parts of eastern Zaire. The Tutsi allies control the major towns of Bukavu and Uvira, and are on the point of taking Goma.

As hundreds of thousands of refugees in the eastern provinces of North and South Kivu fled before the fighting, the ethnic battles threatened to explode in the capital, Kinshasa. Thousands of university students swarmed through the streets demanding all-out war with neighbouring Rwanda and Burundi and shouting for the Tutsi rebels' defeat. Many traveled in vehicles hijacked from civilians. Tutsis, who are among some of Zaire's most successful entrepeneurs and professionals, are packing up and leaving, fearing a witchhunt. On Thursday, the transitional parliament called for Tursis to be sacked from the army, civil service and state-run firms.

 Panicking residents streamed out of the border town of Goma as Zairean and Rwandan sol-

QUICKLY

Nurse jailed

for five years.

No easy solution

and allied militiamen fled the would be no easy way for himto restore order and turn the school around. Page 4

diers fought in the streets and Tutsi rebels battled for control of the airport, the aid lifeline for

hundreds of thousands of refugees. "There are RPA

(Rwandan Patriotic Army)

troops in uniforms in the cen-

tre of Goma city, the main

square. They came in by land

and across Lake Kivu on boats

landing on the city beach," said

a diplomat in Rwanda, who de-clined to be identified. "We are

110 per cent certain the RPA is

added another diplomat.

Goma It is confirmed.

Radio reports said 100 for-

eigners were trapped in a cathe-

dra! in the centre of Bukavu, a

provincial capital 60 miles south

of Goma at the southern end of

Lake Kivu. And 35 miles (55

kilometers) oorth of Goma,

200,000 terrified Hutu refugees

Tutsis, backed by the Rwan-

dan army, are fighting to repel

Zairean army attacks and to

push Rwandan Hutu refugees

further into Zaire. A Reuters

photographer, Corinne Dulka,

confirmed yesterday that Bukavu fell to the rebels on

Wednesday. Dufica, who was in

the town throughout the fight-

ing, said the Zairean military

were fleeing the fighting.

A nurse who deliberately al-Tax cuts warning tered crucial settings oo life-sav-Five of the Government's six ming machines in an intensive dependent economic advisers care ward was yesterday jailed attempted to persuade the Chancellor not to indulge in a pre-election Budget tax give-The new headmaster of the away. The City, however, bewas my husband's dream that troubled Ridings School, in lieves that he is going to give Halifax, admitted that there away £2-3bn. Page 22

city followed by tens of thousands of people in the hours be-fore the rehels entered the town. She said the ethnic Tutsi Banyamulenge rebels, who were well equipped with mortars, were well disciplined and had not looted the town. She saw 28 people who had been ex-ecuted by the Zairean army before the troops fled. After capturing Bukavu the rebels

then closed in on Goma. Heavy cross-border artillery and mortar fire continued yesterday. A shell fired from Zaire exploded in the main market of



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the border from Goma, and wounded several people. The artillery attack sent about 5,000

residents fleeing. About 10,000 to 15,000 Rwandan troops were attacking from inside Zaire and from the Rwandan side of the border, said a Zaireao military spokesman, Victor Masandi. Tutsis moved into the area of Zaire north of Lake Kivu about 60 years ago, and have lived in Zaireao territory south of the lake for at least 200 years. Last month Zairean officials or-

dered those in South Kivu, the Banyamulenge, to leave. Oo Thursday, Raymond Chretien, the new UN envoy to Central Africa, said in New York that he would stop io Lansanne to see the Zairean President, Mobutu Sese Seko, before he leaves for the region in the coming week. Mr Mohutu, 66, underwent surgery for prostate cancer in Lausanne's University Hospital in August.

The fighting is fueling a refugee crisis that threatens to match the proportions of the 1994 exodus of 1.1 millioo Rwandan Hutus, who fled to Zaire fearing reprisals for the Hutu massacre of Tutsis.

outsprint Travel9-15

Can the new 125 bhp Audi A3 an angry rhino?

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Tough curbs on unions planned

Labour Editor

The Government is proposing some of the toughest employment legislation since the Second World War, making it difficult or impossible for unions to mount effective industrial action in a wide range of industries.

In a draft Green Paper leaked to the TUC, ministers reveal plans to give companies and individuals rights to prevent "disproportionate or excessive" stoppages particularly in monopoly services.

The document, entitled Industrial Action and Trade Unions, goes much further than unions feared - doubling the notice period for stoppages from seven to 14 days and enforcing fresh ballots every three months where action continues

Under the proposals, ballots will also require a majority of those entitled to vote, not simply a majority of those voting. That would mean the present mandate for action at the Royal Mail would be null and void. Other suggestions by the Government were labelled as

"vindictive and small minded" by TUC officials, Rights to time off for union activities would be abolished, and there would no longer be an obligation on management to provide information on which to base collective hargaining.

By far the most serious element of the proposed law is the plan to outlaw "disproportionate" action. The paper makes clear that recent strikes affecting the fire service, public transport and the postal service would have come within the scope of such laws. Unions which fell foul of injunctions could expect fines' for contempt of court and sequestration of assets.

John Monks, general secre-tary of the TUC, said ministers were "plumbing new depths" in an attempt to make political capital out of trade unions. He

said the provisions were confusing and could lead to thousands of court cases where judges would have to decide whether the impact of industrial action would be "dispropor-

tionate or excessive" The paper suggests that industrial action would qualify if there were risks to life, health or safety; threats to national security or serious damage to property or the economy. Another provisioo which might be seen as a "catch-all" is where action disrupts "everyday life or activities in the whole or part of

the country" It acknowledges that there may be some "uncertainty"

over the legislation initially, but this would reduce as case law huilt up.

The paper makes clear that the strikes on London Underground this summer would have been declared unlawful unless the unioo maintained minimum services on all lines. The law could not be invoked where individuals had been "mildly inconvenienced".

Another example used by the document, however, is where a mobile phone network is closed by industrial action. Because it would he expensive to switch to another system, the document implies that a customer could legitimately seek in parenthesis in this part of the draft: "We are looking for a bet-

ter example". While only a minority of trade unions had abused their power, the Government did oot believe that relying oo unions to "exercise restraint" provided sufficient protection

the paper says. A spokeswoman for the Department of Trade and Industry said Ian Lang. President of the Board of Trade, would oot comment on any leaked document. Mr Lang had however set out his views on why strikes with a "disproportionate effect" should be made unlawful.

significant shorts

Man charged over Lisburn Army bomb

A man is to be charged with bombing Army headquarters in Northern Ireland, it was revealed last night. He comes from north Belfast and is expected to appear in court in the city today.

One soldier died following

the no-warning IRA double bomb attack at Thiepval barracks, Lisburn, Co Antrim, on 7 October. More than 30 others, many of them civilians, were injured when two car bombs went off within minutes of each other after being driven through the "pass-holders only"

entrance at the barracks. Irish Gardai yesterday seized grenades and bombmaking equipment on a remote farm in Co Louth near the border with Northern Ireland. The find the secood important find this week - was made close to where IRA mortars of the Mark 6 type used in the 1994 Heathrow Airport attack were discovered last month.

Sun apologises to Christie

Former Olympic champion sprint Linford Christie yesterday accepted substantial undisclosed libel damages over a newspaper's claim that he had failed to pay maintenance for his children.

The Sun ran a front-page story in August last year they are recording claiming that the 10-year-old album in London. twins and 16 year-old sun! were forced to live on state benefits, and published criticism of the athlete geocrated by the story. News Group Newspapers Ltd apologised for the publication and accepted that Mr Christie had made - and continued to make substantial payments for the children.

Police learn to save lives

City of London Police are being trained to save lives with automated external defibrillators (AEDs), used for people suffering heart attacks. The three-year scheme was launched yesterday by Bart's City Life Saver, a charity based at St Bartholomew's Hospital. Officers will operate a smaller version of hospital AEDs to analyse the patient's heart and administer the appropriate electrical charge.

Van in fatal motorway crash

A 19-year-old woman died yesterday wheo a van carrying 15 young people to a theme park collided with the central reservation on a motorway. Two other women were in a critical condition in hospital after the accident, which happened on the M42 near Solihull, West Midlands. Nine others of the group travelling io the Ford Transit van were treated in hospital.

A police spokesperson said the E-registration van, which had benches down both sides. had apparently lost control near Junction 6 of the northbound carriageway.t. New regulations come into force next Fehruary which require all minibuses carrying children to have forwardfacing seats and a seatbelt on every seat.

Oasis star in £2m deal

Noel Gallagher, the force behind supergroup Oasis, has signed a £2m publishing deal to write songs for another two albums. The contract exteods his commitment with Sony, Creation Songs and Michael Jackson's ATV Music Publishing for another three years.

The top-selling group were on the point of splitting up in September after Noel's brother. Liam, walked out on their American tour. Now they are recording their third

Fiennes stuck in Chile

Sir Ranolph Fiennes' quest to become the first person to trek across the Antarctic has been delayed because of bad weather. The explorer was due to set off on a solo journey across 1,800 miles of frozeo wilderness - but was stranded in Chile.

The Independent

thas have

Today's newspaper, including the Long Weekend. Magazine and the Eye, is a larger package than we have offered our readers before. As a result, and because of increased production costs, we have reluctantly raised the Saturday price by a modest 10p, from 50p to 60p. The price of The Independent on other days remains unaffected

Ministers do U-turn on sex tourism

Jason Bennetto and Colin Brown

The Government appeared to be in further disarray over its legislative programme last night when it announced that yet another measure - this time sex tourism - would be included in a Bill just days after ministers said it would be left for back

bench MPs to adopt. Labour immediately seized

latest example of a Tory u-Under the proposals cluld molesters who commit offences

abroad, particularly in the Far East, could be prosecuted in this The move will be included in

extend extra-territorial juris-

legislation to introduce a register of paedophiles. The Government decided to diction to child sex offences in Crime Bill, which is expected to The Bill will create a national July after a six-month review of the law.

Against the grain: Anne Watson, who is trying to get tobacco tax cut, brings her nationwide campaign to Parliament.

abuse abroad. the Home Secretary, said that

New powers would also cov-er offences committed in Britain, including conspiring to commit or inciting child sex

Last week Michael Howard.

make slow progress through the house due to its wide scope and controversial provisions. But a Home Office spok-

esman confirmed yesterday that provisions for the new powers vill now be included in a new Bill - left out of the Queen's Speech but reinstated to the the sex tourism measures Government's legislative agenshould be included in a Private da after Lahour leader Tony Members Bill, rather than the Blair promised co-operation.

register of the whereabouts of convicted sex offenders. The announcement is latest in a series of Governmental

The Prime Minister, having initially aruged that legislation on stalking was difficult and should be introduced via a Private Members Bill, agreed mid speech to make it part of offi-cial government legislation af-

speed it through.

He did the same after secur-

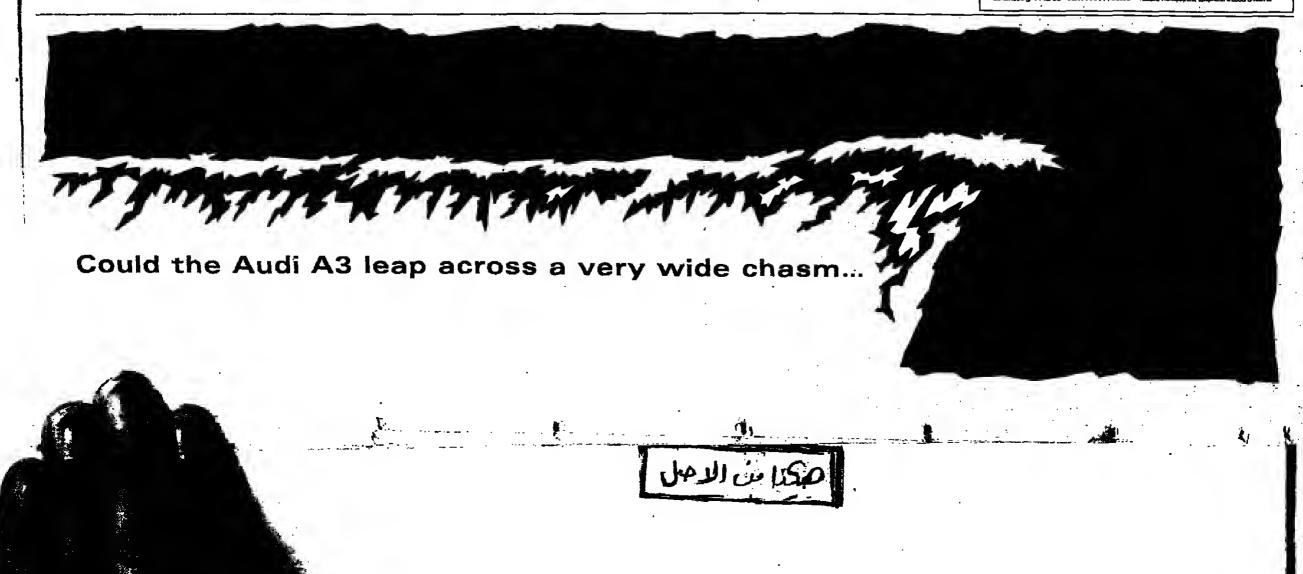
ing a similar opposition agreement on the proposal for the register of sex offenders. There have also been swift changes in the government's stance on combat knives. which the Home Office first problem before announcing a

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s chees to Oasis starin £2m deal

Noted Gallagher, the tenbelief supergroup the signed at 2m publishing to write sough for noise two albums. The course extends his communities. Sour, Creation Some a Michael Jackson's AB Music Publishing 60.93 Trace years

The top selling greeon the point of splitting September after Neels Spottier, Linn workes, their American four V they are a conduct the ailson er London

Fiennes stud in Chile

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VOLUE NOUNT ARRESTS COLLEGE OF STREET

and Luke Jarvis

will have to be as part of paid

of any car that overtook him.

And in July, Mark Smith, pub-

lican of the Crown, Ludgershall.

in Wiltshire, showed continu-ously on a large screen a video.

those named, Mick O'Reilly,

said he was planning legal ac-

advertisements.

tion and street cleaning. The most famous Thatcherite Accusations of social engiborough in Britain has devised neering are borne out by the fact the modern equivalent of being that the policies, particularly council house sales, have reput in the stocks. Anti-social tenants in Wandsworth who sulted in a complete transfor-mation of the demography of the area. Battersea, once a are convincted of offences such as allowing their dogs to foul footpaths are to have their Labour stronghold, is now a rel-atively safe Tory seat while David Mellor's Pumey, a fanames prominently displayed in council literature and advertisements in local newspapers. mous marginal in the 1970s, is now rock solid. The council's housing com-

mittee voted on Thursday night While for many years, the to publicise the names of 30 people found to be "dog-foulers" or to have disobeyed Labour opposition opposed every move by the council, in these days of hinred politics, the Labour group on the counnoise control orders but this list was reduced to 20 yesterday cil is supporting much of new name and shame strategy.

when the Tory chairwoman, Margaret Mervis, removed John Gallagher, Labour's some of the names because housing spokesman, said that he they had an involvement with social services or the offences was worried "we would be called soft on law and order if had occurred too long ago. She we didn't go along with this". However, Labour did oppose said that tenants in rent arrears would not be included: "I do not the naming of people accused of criminal offences - rather consider that being in rent ar-rears is anti-social." than being the subject of coun-However, local newspapers are not playing ball with Wandsworth's "name and shame" policy. The editor of the now been postponed until a full council meeting next month because Labour said council Wandsworth Borough News is mtenants had not been consultsisting that any such publicity ed on the matter.

Long after the departure of Mrs Thatcher, the ethos still The shaming by naming is lives on in Wandsworth. Ms Mervis said that the council part of a British tradition of civic humiliation stretching from the would soon be implementing a policy, made lawful under the Housing Act 1996, of evicting use of the stocks in the Middle Ages to more recent attempts by councils to name those in any tenants convicted of serious rent arrears or who had not paid criminal offences. The strategy their poll tax. DC Thomson, is part of a wider social agenowner of the publications da, also now being adopted by group, used to patrol the streets Labour front-benchers, of using of Dundee in his Rolls-Royce at the council's position as landa sensible speed of 30mph and lord to ensure that tenants bepublish the registration numbers have themselves.

Opponents see it as patronising and discriminatory against tenants. Indeed, while the council prosecutes both local home owners and its own tenants for of the thief convicted of taking. such offences, Ms Mervis said his fruit machine takings.

The policy already got into trouble yesterday when one of that only names of council tenants would be publicised: "We are doing this in our capacity of laudlords as part of our strategy to deal with anti-social behaviour."

tion. "My little mongrel got out , There have been previous exthe back in January of this amples of councils trying to Mr O'Reilly, 54, who lives on Brent, in north west London, the Somerset Estate. He was took out four page advertise-fined £72 and says he has nev-ments in local freesheets listing fined £72 and says he has nev-ments in local freesheets listing er been in trouble before: "I'm the names and addresses for going to sue for libel over this." those who had orders for non-Wandsworth has always takpayment of poll tax and business en pride in being in the vanrates. John Walker, the council's spokesman, said last night: "It guard of Tory policy. In the late 1970s, it pioneered the sale of was very unpopular with those council houses, before the ar- listed but it worked as the nonpayment rate went from 38 per rival of Margaret Thatcher in Downing Street, and it was the cent to 10 per cent."



but in Glasgow they manage it with a smile



حكدًا من الملصل

From dirty dogs to ghetto-blasters

Paper weights: Papier mache sculptures set an example to litter louts

A "heavy-weight" Glasgow couple have been very kindly helping out Strathelyde Police's Spudlight ini-tiative by picking up litter themselves as part of a campaign to highlight the problem and the public nuisance that it causes.

The police are so pleased with the help from Mr and Mrs Maclean and their dog. Scrap that the Chief Constable will meet them this morning personally to thank them for the litter they that have been

The two six-feet paper-mache figures and their dog will be on display beside two Spotlight on Litter advertisement trailers outside the Pitt Street entrance of Strathelyde Police force headquarters. Chief Constable John Orr will meet the family at 11am. The paper-mache figures were commissioned for the Art Store, Queen Street, Glasgow, and were ient to Straincivde Police for the duration of th three-month Spotlight Initiative.

The figures were made by Mhairi Corr, a Glasgow-based artist, who set up her workshop after receiving a grant from the Scottish Arts Council. The figures will go back to the Art Store as a window-display after helping out the Spotlight cam-

Today Sergeant Kenny Rodger will accompany the Maclean family along Sauchiehall Street, dis-tributing public-information leaflets on litter and vandalism and giving advice to the public about the

Four decades on, Hamburg says it has had enough of the Beatles

David Lister Arts News Editor

Hamburg has banned The Beatles. Belatedly, almost four decades after the German port took in the hunch of teenage wannabes and nurtured their raw talent in its red light area nightclubs, it has decided enough is enough.

Messrs McCarmey, Harrison and Starr are said to be puzzled and secretly a little thrilled that in their mid fifties they are considered too shocking for any city, let alone one as earthy as Hamhurg.

The surviving Beatles were informed yesterday that the Hamhurg city council has ve-toed the playing of tracks from the group's new Anthology 3 album or shots from the accompanying Anthology video in its ated with the group, has shopping mails or any public ordered a shutdown of the Bea-



Love me do: But Hamburg is no longer so keen

The album is being played in shopping malls across Germany, in cities including Berlin. Nuremburg and Frankfurt.

But Hamhurg, the Conti-nental city most closely associtles sound. When EMI, the

informed of the decision, it thought it was a joke and carried on with the public relays of the music. Then in a scene reminiscent of the pomp and pomposity of the mayor and corHamburg invoked the might of

The corporation informed EMI there was an old city reg-ulation which "prohibited flick-ering light in public places." This meant that playing of the Beatles video must cease immediately. Though no light flickers from the alhum, public plays of that have also been banned.

The Beatles' spokesman Geoff Baker said last night: "Perhaps they were concerned there would be riots at the check out counters. It does seem hizarre that the group who put this city on the map for much of the world and who reminisce about Hamburg in their new video now find that video banned by Hamburg city council. It's amusing and a little shocking that The Beatles are not considered suitable for public display in the city poration of Hanover in The that once paid them to perform Pied Piper, the city council of twice nightly."

Rushdie delighted after Danes change mind on exclusion

Salman Rushdie, the author living under an Iranian death threat, thanked the government of Denmark yesterday for reversing its decision and inviting him to Copenhagen to collect a literary award.

Earlier in the week, the Danish government had asked Rushdie to stay away from the award ceremony on the grounds that the police would not be able to provide for his security.

"I gather there's been a lot of fuss in Denmark today, and a lot of people have been very an-noyed about the government's decision. I am delighted that they have so swiftly reversed their decision." Rushdie said.

The Danish culture minister, Jytte Hilten, said in a letter to the author that Denmark "re-



Salman Rushdie: Delighted by swift reversal of decision

not take place as planned, hut must assure you that the decision was taken purely on secu-

I would like to invite you grets the award ceremony can- and personally present you

Rushdie has been living in semi-secreey ever since the fate Iranian spiritual revolutionary leader, the Avatoliah Ruholiah Khomeini, issued a fatura in 1989 decreeing that he should be killed for his "blasphemous" book, The Satanic Verses. Iran's present rulers say that they are powerless to nullify the fatwa.

specify an exact date.

November, the date of the cer-

emony, but would be free in vis-

it Copenhagen "some time before Christmas". He did not

but stress that they have no in-

tending meetings that have

tention of sending hitmen to murder the author. In recent years, Rushdie has travelled widely in Britain and abroad, giving lectures and at-

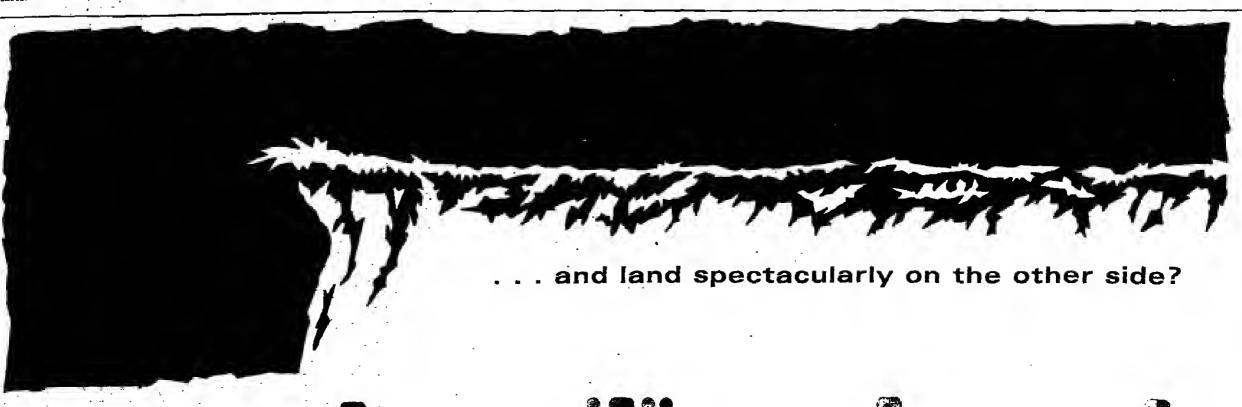
with your prize in Copenhagen." Denmark's Prime Minister. sometimes been well-advertised in advance. Earlier this Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, said week, he gave a reading of his Rushdie would have to scrap his works in Vienna. plans to collect the award on 14

The Danish government had initially said that Mr Rushdie might be in danger in Copenhagen because the police had other urgent matters to deal with, above all the threat of

Nordic biker gangs. One such gang recently lived a rocket-propelled missile into another gang's headquarters in the Danish capital, killing two

However, there were immediate protests from human rights groups and politicians in Denmark and abroad.

"I'm disappointed that we sent out a signal which can be interpreted as if we're falling on our knees before the Iranian regime," said Bjoern Elmavist, a member of the Dunish Rad-



IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

THE SUNDAY REVIEW

ARE YOU GETTING **ENOUGH?**

Or are your friends earning much more than you? The ultimate guide to who earns what

THE LOFT REVOLUTION Has it all gone wrong?

THE WORM RETURNED Flukes and maggots are being used to treat Aids

CAMERA NO LONGER OBSCURA Christopher Isherwood tells tales in his diary



real life



THE BODY OF THE FUTURE

The fat shall be thin, the old shall be young, and the ugly will buy new faces ... but will we be happier?

METAL GURU Hester Lacey gets her spoon bent by Uri Geller

SPORT

AGASSI: FALLEN HERO

He may be walking out with Brooke Shields, butcan he still play tennis?

FERGIE: THE FIRST 10 YEARS Not her but him. Alex Ferguson has been manager of Manchester United for a decade



BUSINESS

SWAPSHOP

Banks will become shops and shops will become banks

THE JARGONBUSTERS

Beat financial gobbledegook and win two Upper Class return tickets to New York on Virgin Atlantic. Send in the worst example of jargon that you can find, with your translation. Closing date 18 November

I'm no Messiah, says the new head of Ridings

Education Editor

The man appointed yesterday to the most difficult joh in ed-ucation - the headship of the Ridings School, Halifax - says he is "oo Messiah" and cannot turn round the school on his

Calderdale Council closed the school on Thursday after two members of staff were assaulted. One, a supply teacher in French, had her breast foo-

died by a 15-year-old boy. Mr Clark, at present head of a grant maintained school near the Ridings, refused to say whether he would agree to the

Charlie Bain

Outside the firmly locked doors

of the Ridings, a group of sev-eo girls posed for photographs

under a banner saying "support the innoceot". The school may

be closed, but the arguments

over who is responsible for the hreakdown in discipline con-

Parents were still angry at the

closure and hlamed the teach-

ers for the lack of control. Oce

couple were considering legal

action while a mother whose son

was among the 600 sent home

on Thursday said the teachers

couldn't cope and were unruly

None of this bothered the group of seven girls who have

formed an action group calling themselves "Good Kids Win",

in an attempt to make the

school a safer and more pleas-

ant place. "Seventeen people

have already signed our peti-tion," said Jo Lovell, 15. We

just want to be able to work hard

and enjoy everything the school

A written statement, scrawled in coloured ink on a

piece of A4 paper, was handed

out. It said that most of the pupils got oo well with the staff

and a lot of effort was put in out-

side school hours to help the

pupils succeed. "We have been

disgusted by many of the com-

ments made in the media over

the past few days," it read.

"We think there are a lot of

pupils in the school who support

the staff hut are too frighteoed

group, is studying for seven GCSEs and wants to become a

ourse. "If we go for an interview and say we're from the Ridings

Zoe Taylor, 15, leading the

expulsions which striking teachers at the school are demand- school." ing before they will return to

And he appealed to journalists to leave the school alone so that he could restore a normal

Mr Clark, head of Rastrick School, told ITN: "This is the last chance for the Ridings School. I don't really want to make any comments on exclusions because I don't know who should be excluded and who shouldn't.

"It may be that some children will be better off with a more varied curriculum. I will be

school it will pull us down," she said. "Doors will be closed be-

For many parents, the teachers are to blame. One mother

Diane Griffiths, whose 11-year-

old soo David has just started

at the school, said she had

complained to the council and the chairman of the governors last month after he was al-

legedly physically abused by

"You hear all about the chil-

dren attacking their teachers but

you hear oothing about the

teachers abusing the pupils," she said. "My soo was assaulted by

a teacher for banging his ruler on the desk and giggling with

and ripped his jumper, dragged him out of his seat, threw him

against a desk and then threw

Mrs. Griffiths, a single moth-

er in her thirties, also said that she was appalled at the way the

staff just threw the children on

to the street with an explanatory

Another disgrunded parent,

Sheriden Walton, whose children, Chantel, 14, and Jamie,

15, both attend the school, said

end we'll just be hack to square

for the school as it is now."

the staff, she replied: "It's im-

him out of a class."

note on Thursday.

The teacher grabbed him

memher of staff.

fore they are even opeoed."

Parents lay

blame on

teachers

He said later that his job ould he to restore the morale of everyone in the school. He rejected the idea that the school was close to anarchy: he knew there were many good staff employed there and that most of the pupils were well-be-

Coun. Stephen Pearson, a Liberal Democrat and former Rastrick governors, described the joh at the Ridings as "the higgest professional challenge in secondary education" but said that Mr Clark had successfully turned round his pre-

49 per cent. He had got rid of failing teachers, set up a motorbike group to keep pupils off the streets and had won funding for new playing fields from the lot-

toe sandalled, bushy-bearded. anorak wearing seventics-style teachers," he said.

Senior inspectors who visit-ed the Ridings this week will deliver their report to Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education on Tuesday. If they say it is failing, she could order a team of experts -

per cent of pupils got five good an education association to GCSEs. This year the figure was

light decide to close it down. David Blunkett, the shadow secretary of state for education, attacked Calderdale council for the council should not wait for the school to be declared failing hot should draw up its action plan at once

That should include the removal of the worst pupils and a review of teaching standards. The appointment of a grant maintained school head by the Labour council roused speculation that the authority might be hoping to avert the school's



Oot of classs: Zoe Taylor and fellow members of the Ridings School action group, the school's problems will pull them down, they say

she felt that the appointment of could easily happen to a child as well."

new headmaster, Peter Clarke, would do nothing to help dis-Both Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Walton feel that the break-"How's it going to help with these pupils?" she asked "In the down in discipline is mainly down to a hard core of around 12 pupils whom they believe one. I can't see a way forward should he expelled. "They should deal with them one at Wheo asked what she felt a time and get rid of the main about sending her children to a trouble-makers," said Mrs

school where other pupils were Griffiths. "Then discipline the alleged to have sexually abused Later in the morning, the girl who was said to have slammed

mensely worrying. If it happens who was said to have slammed to a member of staff theo it a door in the face of the com-

puter teacher Frazer Coxon on Thursday morning made a guest appearance outside the school, to the delight of the waiting press. Vicky Crabtree, 14, stood by the gates and smiled for waiting cameramen. "I did slam the door but Mr Coxoo was oowhere oear it."

As one resident from the nearby Ovenden estate said: The whole situation has turned into a circus. You can't discipline these kids - they just love the attention too much."



U ...

....

Why there will be more sink schools

There will be more Ridings Schools. The Halifax compre-hensive, closed after assaults on two teachers, is a warning for the future. Politicians' devotion to parental choice, first espoused by the Government and taken up by Labour, has po-larised schools. Middle-class schools are hecoming more middle-class. Schools like the Ridings are having to cope with growing numbers of difficult childreo.

All the research shows that choice helps to create sink schools. A study from Edinhurgh University shows that in Scotland where parental choice was introduced earlier than in England the result was to con-

ceotrate the most deprived pupils in particular schools. Comprehensives in Britain, far from ending social class divisions, have increased them. Middle class parents who choose to remain within the state system simply pick schools with plenty of other middle class children. Receot research from Caroline Benn and from Clyde Chitty of Birmingham University shows that compre-

hensive schools are less comprehensive in their intake than 20 years ago. That is not simply the result ilar schools which expel only one

of a oew emphasis oo parental choice. Government policies encouraging schools to compete for pupils, to pit themselves against m each other in examination league tables and to select more of their pupils all increase the difference between haves and have-oots. The Rid-

ings School has to compete for pupils with two grant main-Yet there is more to the collapse of the Ridings than politics. There are inner city schools with dozens of difficult pupils which do oot have to be closed.

There are also - as the union demanding the expulsion of at. least 20 pupils might note - sim-

or two pupils a term and where Government has stripped them of power to intervene get five or more top GCSE Part of the trouble is ungrades. The notion that pupils at the Ridings are uniquely awful won't wash.

Nor is it likely that the change of head will, by itself, solve the problem. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, refused to comment on the Ridings earlier this week. But he did say that in other schools boring and ineffec-

tive teaching was ofteo responsible for indiscipline. As for Calderdale Council, the local authority, it has twiddled its thumbs for far too long. Local authorities cannot hide behind the excuse that the

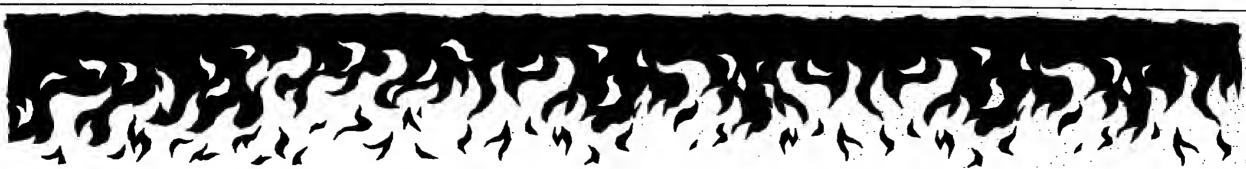
doubtedly financial. There are not ecough special schools or pupil referral units to take pupils who are unmanageable.

Part lies in the determination of teachers, undervalued, eveo reviled by a succession of politicians and the public, to assert their rights by refusing to teach the most unruly pupils. They have had ecough and their

anger is understandable. The danger is that they and no-one else will become the sole arbiters of which children can be taught in schools.

Judith Judd

And how will !



Will the Audi A3's 20 valve engine power its way through this deadly inferno?



i the

an education association is take ever the school which might checkly to close a down David Blunkett, the sleading

exerction of state to equation attacked Calderdale conneiling "herewisent inaction The said the council should not wall he the select to be declared fall. the second the stand of the second

tion plan at once, That should include the removed of the worst pupils and a review of teaching standard the appointment of a grant maintained school head by the Labour council topocal specilation that the authority might the hoping to avery the school, takçover



School action group, the tograph: Asadour Guzelian



or many for his stupped them owner propagation provider the nomble points a tracky formeral. There are a promote the state of softening aged a ferral ands to take де ката ағы ақының еңірік Partie anabe determinated problems and walned will vita the acmospherial police evenuating public, to asset the organis by a theather to both ment anigh papit. They to part queuch and their and a mederational dela-The dengal is that they and entered as well become the selespots of which children cut triangle in selection

Judith Judd



Crime Correspondent Prospects of a total handgun

can receded yesterday after he Government's proposals to putlaw 80 per cent of pistols reeived an important boost from he Ulster Unionists. But as Michael Howard, the

fome Secretary, published the Firearms Bill it emerged that the cost of compensating gun owners could be more than double the early official esti-mates, rising to £50m. Labour and the Liberal De-

mocrats, hacked by the parents and supporters of the Dun-

Final

shot for

gunsmith

as trade

dries up

Iwo weeks ago, Alan Westlake

was a thriving West Country gunsmith and the only manuacturer of .22-calibre semi-automatic competition pistols in Britain. Today, he is among an estimated 2,000 people set to lose their jobs as a result of the

The 52-year-old former pistol champion runs his business from workshop next to his house near Salisbury, Wiltshire, with the help of his 27-year-old daughter, Rachel. Of the five pistols he was working on this month, four customers have rung up and cancelled their orders since the Government announced the new controls. "One of the guns was 90 per cent finished," be said. Tve got one more Matchmaster gun to finish for a guy in Jersey and that will probably be the last one I'll ever make." A mechanic by training, Mr Westlake spent 25 years in the Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers where he was five-

times Army pistol champion In

1980 be made the Great Britain

wealth Games and six years lat-

He learnt his trade working

in the small-arms section of the regiment and after leaving the

he went on to make larger cal-

er became a national coach.

proposed legislation.

blane victims, had hoped to the Dunblane massacre, in overturn the Bill and force an which 16 children and a all-out ban. However, the nine teacher were killed by Thomas tered clubs – with a maximum tered clubs – with a Ulster Unionist MPs announced yesterday that they would not vote against the Government. They are expected to abstain. This will help the Tories defend their fragile majority al-though the outcome is still in the

of Tory MPs are threatening to vote against the Bill. Mr Howard yesterday declared that the Firearms (Amendment) Bill would give Britain some of the toughest firearms controls in the world. The measures are a response to

balance, as a significant number

Hamilton.

Under the proposals all handguns above 22 calibre will be banned, resulting in the destruction of around 160,000 of the 200,000 legally held hand-Enthusiasts will be able to use less powerful .22 pistols only at registered gun clubs. The Bill

tion and gun-club security.
It provides for stiff senctions

penalty of 10 years' imprison-

Owners of the smaller .22 pistols will have to surrender their weapons to a police station for safe-keeping until they can arrange to join a licensed club. The question of compensa-

tion is likely to be one of the most contentious aspects of also details tough new rules on gun sales, mail order, police the Bill, with the Government estimating that the cost of paypowers, certification, ammuniing firearm enthusiasts and dealers will range from £25m to £50m. The previous estimate against anyone retaining was £24m. In addition, admin-

Firearms Bill: Howard publishes proposals as figures show that cost of compensation could be double the official estimates

that there were no plans to compensate gun shops or clubs for loss of business or pay for ammunition or accessories. The shooting lobby claim that the true cost of compensation was

up to fibr. The Government has managed to make considerable savings by agreeing to allow owners to keep antique handguns and pistols acquired before 1946 as trophics of war. The question of so called "heritage" weapons or collectors' pieces is still under Compensation payments are expected to start in April and will be based on market value of the firearm on 15 October.

Asked why the Government was opposed to a total ban. Mr Howard said: "There is the risk that banning all handguns might drive some larger shooters underground. This would mean that the public had less protection from gun attacks

The prospects of the Bill's success were improved after the Ulster Unionists made it clear that they would not support a

John Taylor, the party's

rather than more.

abolish all handguns, as some people are suggesting. We think that's a rather emotional reaction to the tragedy of Dunhiane."The party has yet to make a final decision on whether to support the Govcrament or abstain.

Labour is still pressing for a total ban and demanding a free Commons vote on the issue, but has already made it elear that it will not stand in the way of tighter firearms restrictions.

Jack Straw, shadow home now they're ruining it at the last secretary, said: "By continuing to permit at teast 40,000 .22 now they're ruining it at the last moment by not giving us a free vote."

Unionists set to back Tories on handguns deputy leader, said: "We do not handguns to be licensed for believe that it's necessary to sport, this Bill will not provide sport, this Bill will not provide the protection the public need." Some pro-shooting Tory

backbenchers say they will op-pose the Bill's ban on the numership of all higher-calibre handguns and other Conservative MPs insist they want a letal ban. Tory MP Robert Hughes (Harrow W), who is campaigning for the prohibition of all handguns, said: "The Government have made a huge error of judgement. They've

handled this issue so well, and

The main proposals

The main proposals of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill are:

* An outright ban on all handguns above .22 calibre - about 160,000 of the 200,000 legally held pistols.
* Illegal possession of a prohibited weapon or a .22 outside a licensed pistol club carries a maximum penalty of 10 ears' imprisonment.

There will be a ban on expanding amounition - the kind which fractures on impact, causing more serious wounds. Mail-ordar sales will effectively be banned

* Gun owners will be obliged to tell the police if they buy, sell, destroy, transfer or deactivate any gun.
* Gun clubs will need a licence from the Home Office or Scottish Office and will have to satisfy police that their premises can offer the tightest security.

There will be tighter police licensing. Applicants for a firearms certificate will have to demonstrate that they are fit to hold a firearm safely, and supply two references.



Obsolete art: Rachel Westlake, also a gunsmith, in her father's workshop with a Westlake Britanns .22 LR handgun Photograph: John Lawrence

team competing in the World 22 goas will still to legal, the Championships and Common stringent ownership rules outlined in the Cullen report and the possibility of a total bandgun ban under a Labour government has meant that the market has dried up. Mr Westlake gives his business two months' survival time.

Army set himself up as a gun-smith making .22-calibre com-"I have no income, end of stopetition pistols at £725 a-piece. ry." he said. "Every penny that As his reputation blossomed, spend comes from my savings. bre pistols, mainly 32 and 38 When my savings go I'll have to sell my house. It's no good say-ing to me go out and borrow the handguns - both of which are

dank manager would you loan money to a gunsmith at this Mr Westlake believes the es-

timated government compensation package of £1bn for members of the shooting community who lose out under the new legislation will be too late for the pistol-makers. "We could be talking three years before the compensation comes through," he said. "I'll be finished by then."

The proposed new legislation has also had a devastating effect

a qualified gunsmith and parttime helper, who runs her own fashion-design business.

What has made me so ancan think in that way."

in Although money because if you were a on Mr Westlake's family, par- weapons, they are sporting moving to the United States by ticularly his daughter, Rachel; goods ... A gun oo its own nev-

> gry is that various people in the local media have referred to my father as a killer because he makes guns," she said. "It's extremely hurtful and actually quite frightening that people

> "These people do not know what they are talking about" Mr Westlake said. "Guns are not

er killed anybody. It requires somebody to use it to be dangerous. You don't blame the

gun, you blame the person." He accepts that ughter gun controls are necessary but feels that the Government was edged into a comer by public hysteria after the Dunblane massacre. "Thomas Hamilton felt rejected by the shooting community and he is getting his own back

on us from the grave," he said. Mr Westlake is considering

sociation of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a pressure group fighting the ban which in just a week has recruited more than 6,000 members. For Mr Westlake, battling for

the gun enthusiast takes his mind off the demise of his profession. "It's a sad day when you realise that your skills are no longer required in Great



6 How long before the gun community moves to take shooting back from small bore to full bore? ?



Britain is considered one of the world's safest places in which to live, work and visit. But the last 30 years have seen a deterioration in our society for a combination of reasons. What is certain is that the gun culture does exist, as do marginalised citizens. Any firearms licensing procedures will inevitably be subjective.

It is generally agreed that fu-ture aberrant behaviour cannot be predicted. The conclusion that most people have reached

only are they a compromise on public safety, they are illogical. The government have seen fit to ban multi-shot guns over .22 calibre. But .22 calibre multishot weapons are just as fast and as lethal. Even a single-shot .22 pistol can be reloaded in five seconds. The Government's published plans, if they be-

come law, will leave up to

40,000 such weapons available. Lord Cullen's condensing of the inquiry evidence was excel-lent. But his recommendations were narrow, vague and legal-

headlong rush for Royal assent. These questions now need to be asked and answered. Should convicted and sus-

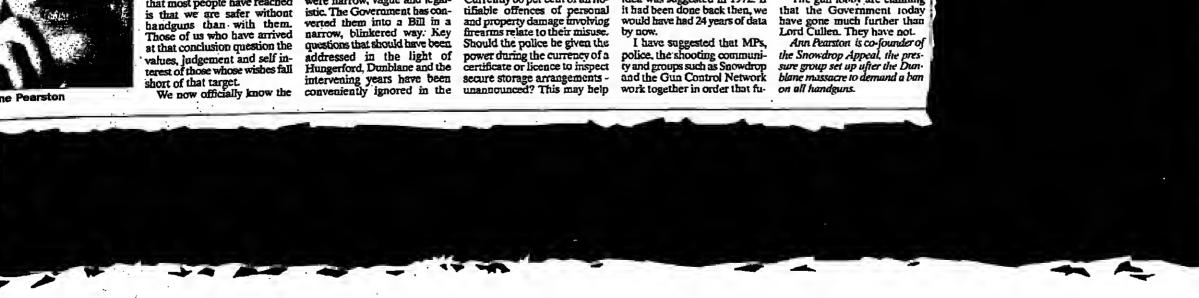
pected paedophiles be barred for life from possessing firearms? Guns are an easy way to attract vulnerable boys to a person. Should society allow non-vocational, recreational firearms to be held in residential urban properties rather than be kept fully disabled in se-eure gun elubs? Should air weapons be brought within the firearms licensing procedures? Currently 66 per cent of all noamong relatives and friends of firearms holders. Should the police he allowed to revoke firearms licences based on local 'common knowledge' or unease about a person? After all, this was all they ever had on

Thomas Hamilton. The question of a national database of firearms hotders based on National Insurance or NHS numbers has similarly not been addressed; neither has the matter of allocating unique serial numbers to all guns. This idea was suggested in 1972. If it had been done back then, we

tight and unambiguous, and in order that guidance to the po-lice is equally etear.

We need to make society safer and we need to cooperate for the greater benefit and safety of all. It took only eight and a half years after Hungerford before relaxation of the firearms licensing procedures set in. How long will it take before the shooting community move 10 take shooting from small bore back to full bore again?

The gun lobby are claiming Cullen. They have not.



And how will the Audi A3's sports suspension cope with the odd falling piano?



A former nurse who deliberately altered crucial settings on lifesaving machines in an intensivecare ward, risking the lives of severely ill patients, was yesterday jailed for five years.

The actions of Amanda Jenkinson, 37, who carried out the medical sabotage in order to discredit her colleagues and promote her own abilities, were described as "unique" by the judge in Nottingham Crown Court, who also criticised her as wicked" and "selfish".

Jenkinson, who began her oursing career in Gloucester in 1978, was convicted on a ma-jority jury decision of 10-2 of causing grievous hodily harm with intent to Kathleen Temple, 67, at Bassetlaw District General Hospital in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, in 1993. Earlier the jury had cleared ber of two other charges of attempting to cause grievous bodily harm to other patients.

Last May, she appeared at a court hearing charged with murdering a 59-year-old patient, Winifred Cashman. The eharge was later dropped after a court ruled that there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

Yesterday in court Mr Justice Owen told Jenkinsoo: " You have been found guilty of an offence which is hard to understand." Although he said there was no suggestion that Jenkinson was suffering from any mental disorder or illness and that she had been fully responsible for her actions, police in Nottingham revealed that Jenkinson was suffering from a psychiatric cooditioo and is believed to have been treated for depression following an abortion in 1982. Following the court decision

North Nottinghamshire Health Authority, which is responsible for Bassetlaw where Jenkinson had worked since 1990, announced that they would be commissioning an independent inquiry. Barbara Meeke, director of the authority, said: "This has been a very traumatic time for patients, staff and relatives. We are now commissioning an independent inquiry to review the circumstances at Bassetlaw hospital during the period in question to see if there are any wider lessons to he learnt." The investigations surround-

ing the incideots on the intensive-care unit (ITU) where Jenkinsoo worked developed into one the largest ever held inside the National Health Service.

In February 1994, oce month after Jenkinson was suspended by the hospital, the police were ought in. Their searches widened to eight other hospitals where there had been 57 other unusual incidents involving sev-eral bundred patients. Medical files from 1982 takeo from all the hospitals where Jeokinson had worked were examined, including Nottingham City Hospital, Gloucestershire Royal, Southmead Hospital in Bristol, John Radcliffe in Oxford, St George's in south London. Central Middlesex, West Lon-

don, and the Northern General in Sheffield.

Central to the prosecution's case against Jenkinsoo was the continuing theme that she felt her official nursing grade, D, was too low for her abilities. She changed the setting on ITU ma-chines in order make other staff look incompetent. One witness, Rosa Jones, a nurse at Bas-

setlaw, described Jenkinson as a "loner". Another colleague, Dr Anthony Dixon, who was in charge of the ITU, said Jenkinson felt her job was beneath her. Her defence counsel's suggestion that although she was truculeot and stubborn she was nevertheless "intensely kind to her patients", was clearly not ac-

cepted by most of the jury.
Uncovering just what had
happened inside the ITU at
Bassetlaw was difficult. Police had to establish links between alleged tampering and any deaths of patients. But many patients were already critically ill before they were admitted to in-

tensive care.

During the four-week trial, the court heard how Jenkinson, had altered a ventilator Mrs Temple at Bassetlaw in November 1993. Mrs Temple was admitted to the hospital suffering from chronically obstructed airways. She was put on a ventilator. Initially, there was good progress over 10 days. But late one night Jenkinson switched the breathing control oo the veotilator from a high rate to low, leaving her with 0.8 assisted breaths every minute instead of eight. The switch was discovered the next morning and staff alerted. Mrs Temple's condition deteriorated and she died three days later.

Jenkinsoo elaimed that she was not on the four-bed ward at the time and could not have altered the machine.

The court heard that Jenkinson was never slow to criticise her colleagues. Peter Joyce QC, for the prosecution, said that she had stage-managed events in order to manufacture inadequacies and highlight her belief in her own superiority.

Jenkinsoowas also accused of switching off a machine supplying sedatives to Brenda Joyce, 61, admitted to the unit in December 1993 suffering an asthma attack. The jury accepted Jenkinson's defence that she had oot touched the machine.

In another incident in Januiary 1994, Jenkinson was accused of switching off a sedative machine attached to Joyce Charlton. Ms Charlton, a patient at Ramptoo secure hospital, was admitted with a suspected broken neck. The jury accepted that Jenkinson had not touched this machine either.

Throughout the court case Jenkinson elaimed that staff had conspired against her. "They hate my guts," she told the jury. When the verdict was an-

nounced, after the jury had deliberated for eight and a half hours, Anne Rafferty QC, for the defence, said: "It is a very puzzling end to a first-rate nurs-



Guilty: Amanda Jenkinson being driven away from Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. Below, Bassetlaw hos



Ministers said to be soft on terrorism

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Ministers and police were accused of being slow or unwilling to tackle state sponsors of errorism in Britain "for fear of losing trade and markets". Evidence published with the

Home Office inquiry report by Lord Lloyd of Berwick, a senior law lord, claims Britain is also putting exports above the fight against terrorism - a eharge strongly denied last night. The allegations, which have

dynamite by opposition sources and are certain to lead to demands for action in the Com-

Lord Lloyd is urging the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, to take new powers to tackle terrorist groups who use London as a base for raising money or organising acts of ter-rorism abroad. He calls for a change to the law on conspiracy to procedure those "who con-

against the Government in the Scott inquiry into the arms to Iraq scandal, were described as France and Germany to proscribe named terrorist organisations to ban them from

fund-raising.

Lord Lloyd makes it clear that investigating trading links was oot part of his remit for reviewing Britain's anti-terror laws, but volume two of the report contains a serious indictment of the authorities by Paul Wilkinson, professor of in-ternational relations at St Andrews University. "We should note the apparent rejuctance of

ministers and the police to utilise fully and rigorously the powers they already have to seek out terrorist assets and have them frozen, pending the result of criminal proceedings.

. There is a notable slowness (or unwillingness?) to use such powers against state sponsors of terrorism for fear of losing trade and markets," Professor Wilkinson asserts. The "present ambivalence" in the UK's policy towards Iran should be seen in the wider context that Iran is engaged with client Islamic groups in trying to undermine

the Middle East peace process, which is so vital to future sta-bility, he adds. "Yet Iran is being rewarded with more access to British trade and services." The Home Office last night

played down the allegations as an academic study. "Obviously the professor is entitled to give his views but we military equipment to Iran ha are looking at the recommen-dations of Lord Lloyd, not at the

academic report. But Lord Lloyd says in his report that he has drawn heavily on the special report commissioned by his inquiry from occredit for Iran.

Straw, Labour's shadow bomisecretary, said: "These are ver serious matters and Labour will be calling for Malcola Rifkind (Foreign Secretary) & make a full explanation of thes grave allegations." Britain has a trade embargo against selling has oo embargo for other goods. A bilateral agreement was recently agreed to reparation in debts as a first step lifting a block by the Export Credit Guarantee Department

Is the Audi A3 agile enough to avoid a dramatic bolt of lightning?





saving vears

R 1996 . THE INDEPENDENT



America gives Brit TV the flickering prize



Arts News Editor

The successor to Britpop could be Brit TV. Indeed, British television programmes look like doing rather bet-ter than contemporary British rock

music in cooquering America. The short-lists for the international Emmy Awards - known as the Oscars of the small screen - were announced yesterday and are dominated

by British programmes. The lists come only two months after a night of triumph for Britain at the main Emmy awards, in which American programmes competed.

In the light entertainment category all three nominations are for UK For the international awards

American programmes are excluded. But in competition with the rest of the the BBC

umentary on the Royal Opera. Seveo were produced by or in coojunction with the BBC. The three programmes commated produced by Hat Trick for C4, and The Precious Blood by BBC Northern Ireland short-listed io the drama cate-

in the light entertainment category, which the American organisers of the competition call "popular arts", are Wallace and Gromit's A Close Share by Aardman Animations and BBC Bristol, Fuher Ted by Hat Trick for C4 and Men Behaving Badly, produced

nominations. The programmes range from Men Behaving Badly to The House – the behind-the-scenes doc-

by Hartswood Films for the BBC. In the arts documentary section, two out of three are British: Children of the Revolution, ao Illuminations production for the BBC, and The House by Double Exposure, also for

Recognition for People's Century, British programmes in the USA over

world, Britain has 10 out of the 18 the eothralling history series told largely through ordinary people, is given in the oominations. "People's Century – 1933: Master Race", produced by the BBC and WGBH is nominated in the documentary section, with Eleven Men Against Eleven

> British children's programmes rank highly: Wise Up by Carlton for C4 and "Newsround Extra: War Child" by the BBC are two out of the three nomi-

oations in that category. A BBC spokeswoman said: "We are delighted at this success in the nominations. These are prestigious awards in which Britain has by no

means always dooe well." Momentum has been huilding for

lous, Drop The Dead Donkey and The Politician's Wife have all been suc-cessful in the States.

Britain has already scored a big success at the annual Emmy awards cer-emony in September (where the Americans do compete) when Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman won the best actress and actor awards, and Gulliver's Travels won five award stat-

Of the other nominated programmes for the international Emmys, three are from France, two are from Sweden and one each from Canada, Holland and Mexico, A record oumber of entries, 330, were

The wiooers will be announced at the loternational Emmy Awards Gala oo 25 November at the New



Gang thugs jailed for torment that turned to murder

old hoy who kicked and puoched a mild-mannered teenager to death in his own front garden were jailed for murder yesterday.

Birmingham Crown Court heard that 19-year-old Anthony Erskine walked out of the family home in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, in January, to act as peacemaker and talk to local youths who had been harassing his family and abus-

But the quiet young man was met by a volley of punches told that on the evening of 3 cluding an earlier incident in

The blows and kicks left the seveo-and-a-half-stone teenag- . er lying unconscious and the brutal assault continued as he lay on the ground, causing him to choke on his own blood.

The jury of seven women and five meo took eight and a half hours to return majority verdices of guilty on both defendants to the charge of murder. The majority in both cases was 10-2. The 10-day trial had been

and kicks from Mark Hem-mens, 21, and Damian Collins, 16. January, Mr Erskine's 53-year-old father Harry was walking home from work at the local cannery wheo he came across Hemmens standing with other youths oo a street corner. Hemmens, who smelt of al-

> skine, telling him "I hate your guts, Erskine. What are you doing to do about it?"
> Mr Erskine senior told the court in evidence that such abuse was just another example of a sustained campaign against his family by local youths, in-

cohol, verbally abused Mr Er-

September last year when Hem-mens had threatened to smash the windows of the family home and damage their car. Hemmens and Collins ad-

mitted to police they were part of a gang which picked on Anthony and his twin brother Ian, and had directed abuse at other members of the family, including another brother, Gary, aged 23, his sister Natalie, 18, and their mother Dorothy, 47.

After returning home, Mr Er-skine mentioned the trouble to

his son who left the house say-

them and sort it out". The jury was told that Hemmens pushed the slightly-built Mr Erskine backwards and the pair rained down hlows as he tried to curl up into a ball to protect his head

His father, who was standing just feet away, said the two treated his son's head like a football. Within two minutes they had fled, leaving Mr Erskine dead

on the lawn. The pair went to Shipston-on-Stour, 12 miles away, where they hoped to be hidden by friends. ing he was going to "talk to but were forced to return to

Stratford on foot and were lat-er found by police hiding in the loft of a house.

Both admitted they had been involved in the violence but denied an intentioo to kill.

Hemmens, of Justins Aveone. Stratford, held his head in his hands and fought back tears as the murder verdicts were delivered. Collins mouthed "No way" and shout-

ed to his grandmother "Don't worry" before being led away. Jailing Hemmens for life, and ordering Collins to be detained at Her Majesty's plea- in 1988 she had launched a pe-

sure, Mr Justice Reune said: "It was a vicious and enwardly atgans but said she now wondered tack - the two of you against if Anthony would still be alive ooe. The worst of the violence if she had not done so. was inflicted whilst he was lying quite helpless on the ground.

The judge said he was satis-

kicked Mr Erskioe repeatedly

and two more lives have been

ruined. It doesn't solve any-

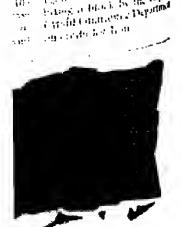
to the head.

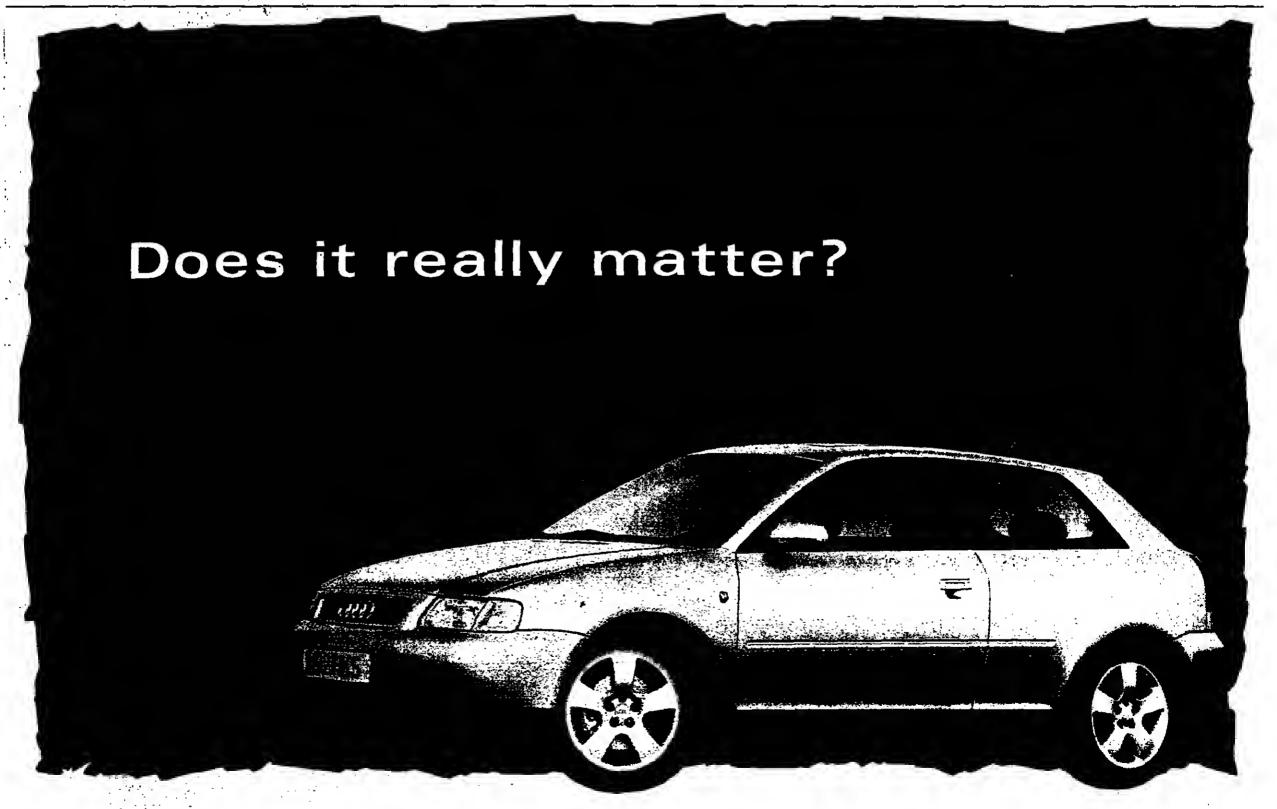
"Sometimes I wonder if I had kept my mouth shut would my son still be alive. I don't know fied it was Collins who had what I feel any more. All I know is that had we moved out of the house would he he still he After the case, Mrs Erskine said: "My soo has got justice. I alive? This is not the end but an-Other chapter in a terrible nightam pleased. But my son is dead mare. We can oot look forward to the future with any confidence. There have been threats thing." She told reporters that since my soo died. The harassment has not stopped."



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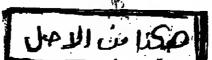








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Criminal vetting for millions ofworkers

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Up to eight million people seeking a job are expected to be vetted each year to check if they have a criminal record, under government proposals pub-lished vesterday.

Penal reform groups condemned the system, contained in the Police Bill, and which will cost £5-£10 an inquiry, saying it would make most ex-offenders unemployable.

The Home Office also published details of a national squad to help fight organised crime, and proposals to allow police to break into homes and plaot electronie bugs.

The main proposals

Establishment of a National Crime Squad in England

Set up an agency to supply information on millions of criminal records to employers

Officially sanction police and Customs officers to break into properties and plant elec-

Place the National Criminal Intelligence Service on a UK-wide statutory

The higgest surprise in the Bill is the scale of business expected to be undertaken by the proposed Criminal Records Agency. In the first year it is expected 25 million checks will be dooe, costing £18m. It is expected to rise to 8 million a year, worth £60m in revenue. The ageocy, with at least 400 employees, will provide three lev-

sensitivity of the job.

The first, a Criminal Conviction Certificate (CCCs), will be issued to individuals and contain details of unspent convictions. The second, "full", or criminal-record certificates, will contain details of cautions and convictions, including offences that are spent - sentences of 30 months or less are wiped clean after a set period. These will be used for sensitive jobs such as those involving regular contact with children, and health workers. The highest level, an "en-hanced" check, will be available

only to people with regular, su-pervised access to children or for certain statutory licensing purposes, such as gambling and the lottery, and judges and magistrates.

The Home Office believes a criminal-records check could become standard practice for all new employees. People who iry to use or make a take certificate, or use one belonging to someone else, could face six

months' jail or a £5,000 fine. Harry Fletcher, of the Na-tional Association of Proba-tion Officers, said: "Given the current competitive nature of the joh market, the possibility that potential employees will need to obtain the certificate ought to ensure that most exprisoners will never work again. This is recipe for further crime.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said increased access to criminal records would improve protection of the public.

The Bill also proposes establishment of a National Crime Squad, an amalgamatioo of the existing six regional crime squads, to support local forces investigating serious crime. It will work with the National Criminal Intelligence Service, which is to become a statutory agency outside control of central government. Both organisations will be scrutinised by two

new watchdog authorities. The third aspect of the Bill is to make police and Customs guidelines involving secret surveillance operations part of the law. Chief constables will be allowed to authorise officers to break into properties and plant listening devices if they believe it is necessary as part of an investigation into serious crime.

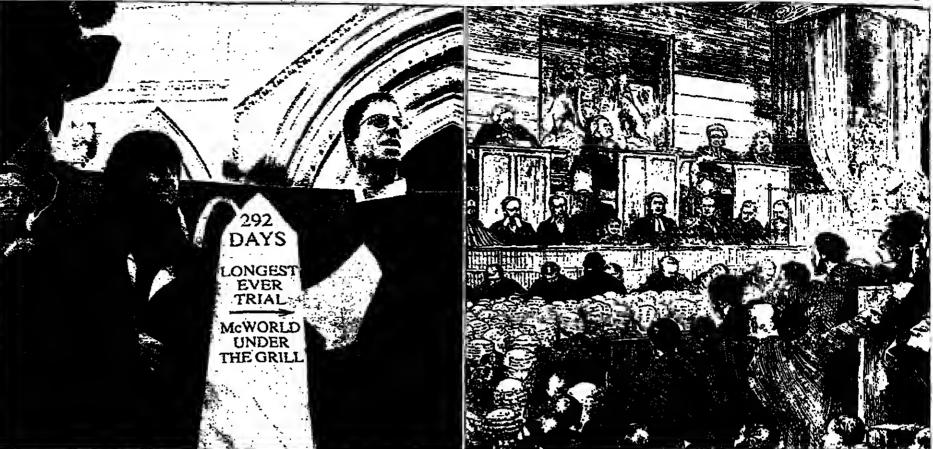
The measures are opposed by the Liberty civil-rights group, which says they are open to abuse. John Wadham, the director, said: "Clearly our homes the police can authorise themselves to hng, hurgle and trespass anywhere they like, without

a court order." It has also emerged that the Government is considering adding an amendment to the Police Bill which would enable evidence obtained by the police and intelligence services during telephone tapping to be adsible in court in cases of vational security, such as

But because of lack of time

A tale of two court cases: McLibel becomes longest trial for a century

مكذا من الأحل



Hearing becomes the biggest Mac of all

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Someone had brought along a model of a milestone to the picket outside the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand. The "McLibel" trial had reached its 292nd day - making it the longest of any kind in British his-

To anyone who has ever had dealings with the courts, it is the kind of record that inspires only weariness and depression. But Helen Steel and Dave Morris, the MeLibel defen-

dants, were in doughty mood yesterday. "It's a milestone for us and critics of the food industry, but a millstone for the \$30bn dollar a year McDonaki's corporation."
The McLibel Support Campaign is comparing the marathon battle with the fast-

food giant to the 18th century Tichborne personation case, civil and a criminal trial lasting Apart from a connection in

both to South American rainforests, any similarities between them end there.

In the Tichborne case, where an imposter posed as the heir to a fortune after being presumed to have met his death in the South American jungles, society ladies crammed the publie galleries and the Chief Justice had to institute a ticket system, Botham v Khan style.

The public never turns up for the McLibel saga, a non-jury tri-al before Mr Justice Bell with it looks increasingly likely that al before Mr Justice Bell with this measure will be shelved. In histrionics, just painstak-

counter-allegation. Eveo the ever-conscientious Press Association news agency has given up trying to make a story of the proceedings as the two litigants person seek to refute each and every allegation by Richard Rampton, McDonald's ultra-

For Ms Steel, a 31-year-old

works in a club, there was no option but to fight the case after MeDocald's served writs in September 1990 over a London Greenpeace (no relation to the worldwide Greenpeace organ-isation) leaflet entitled "What's Wrong With McDonald's".

Three other defendants reluctantly apologised over the six-

ent, and Mr Morris, 42, who the promotion of 'junk' food, exploitation of workers and animals, advertising to children and damage to the environment. For Ms Steel and Mr Morris, veterans of CND, the anti-poll tax campaign, the Wapping picket and the miners' strike,

caving in was not in their nature. As the McDonald's corporation has thrown seemingly unthe exercise appears increasingly futile. The McLibel Support Campaign claims that 2 millioo copies of the allegedly libellous leaflet have been handed out in the LIK alone since the case be-

And in a foretaste of a European Court of Human Rights battle still to come. Ms Steel and allowed the corporation to demand proof over a wide range of "common sense" issues in the leaflet, like the fact that packaging ends up as litter.
The case, which the image-

conscious corporation hoped to either settle or dispose of within a month, has become a nightmare, spawning what seems be a largely libel-proof, ever-growing anti-MeDooald's informa-

tion exchange,
At the McLibel Support
Campaign, Dan Mills, a 28-yearold former trainee solicitor with the city law firm Loyell White Durrant, claims thousands of supporters round the world, while MeInformation Network. an international network of volunteers, claims its McSpotlight internet site - cootaining masses of everything McDonald's would rather people were not told - has been accessed more than 4 million times.

Try as it may, McDonald's - perhaps impossible - battle

Marathon man exposed as fraud

Luke Jarvis

The Tichhorne persocation case, the longest trial in the history of British justice, concerned the dispute over the inheritance of the Tichborne Estate, Hampshire, estimated at a value of £24,000.

The Baron of Tichborne, Sir cited in the Guinness Book of Affred Doughty-Tichborne, had Records, which comprised a died in 1866 and was to be sueceeded by his infant son. trustee, Lady Doughty-Tichborne received news of the return of her late husband's elder brother, Robert Tichborne, presumed dead, in the South

American jungles he had ven-tured into 18 years beforehand. The civil hearing of the brother's claims to the estate, which began in May 1871, lasted 103 days and centred on ascertaining whether or not the man was actually Robert Tichborne. Doubts over his identity stemmed from the distinct difference in manner and appearance between the man who left for the South American wilderness and the man who returned from it. Every aspect of Tichborne's

life was examined in minute detail: including the matter of whether his earlobes dangled freely or were attached to his cheeks. Newspapers reported that "the galleries were full of ladies and it became necessary for the Chief Justice to regulate admissions to the court by tickaristocratic version of East- call likenesses between the old ment and hard labour,

Enders with every respectable Victorian requiring their daily dosage of humour and gossip from the case.

Friends and relatives of Robert Tichborne told the court they remembered him as being thinner and oot "knock-kneed as he oow was.

Witnesses were imported from Australia and South America but much of the evidence was circumstantial and

one that stood in court. As the trial dragged on, the jury and judge hecame increasingly confused, and decided in March 1872 that it was unable to reach a decision.

Robert Tichborne and the new

A criminal case alleging impersonation was then held, last-ing a further 188 days, and "Robert Tichborne" was eventually exposed as one Arthur Orton. He was sentenced to two

is waging an increasingly uphill the bottle.

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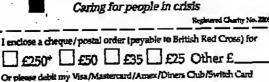
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Bombed, battered, unbowed, Manchester gets back to business as usual



The hoarding on the side of Manchester's bomb-blasted Arndale Ceotre didn't apply to Marks & Spencer but it might as well have done. "Back in busioess" it read in huge blue let-

ters - "You can't keep a hig name down. The packed aisles in M&S's lingerie, food and Christmas gifts departments seemed to speak of the city centre's de-

termination to do the same.

back open. I couldn't wait to get But I've missed my M&S," she down here - we were determined to be here for the first day." said Clare Winterburn from Choriton.

"Tye only been to town twice

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So, apparently had the staff. Peter Winter, 55, of the menswear department, bad been relocated to a suburban rmination to do the same. since the bombing. There branch during the five months "It's just great to have it didn't seem any point coming. it took Marks & Spencer to

open its replacement stores. He said staff were "really emotional" at returning to the city site just two weeks ago it's amazing" he said.
Indeed, the only glum faces

in the whole store yesterday ap-peared on those stuck in the engthy queues for the checkout. The original store and its office tower, destroyed in June wheo an IRA bomb devastated buildings over a one-mile radius,

bas vet to be demolished. It will be two years before the opening of a replacement "flag-

But yesterday's opening of two temporary M&S outlets in the city centre would seem to be an important symbolic, as well as ecocomic, step in the recovery of the area - a fact reinforced by the presence of Sir Richard Greenbury, the company chairman.
"It sends a message that

Manebester is back, ready for trading for Christmas" said a spokesman for the company. Getting the two temporary stores open in such a short time had been "very difficult" and required the backing of M&S's considerable resources.

There certainly appeared to be nothing "temporary" about the plush and polished new branches, based in Lewis's department store and a few yards away in Spring Gardens.

Other smaller retailers, howboasting "Summer" displays.

The council bas ensured that

many of the affected traders have been relocated, often in groups, but many have still not

They've been shut all this time and there will still be a public convenience, wasn't it? ome for whatever reason who said Angela Cooper in the linhave chosen not to relocate. But gerie department. "I didn't our estimate is of the 700 out of action at least 650 will be back there was no M&S. I'll be back

Leese, leader of the city coun-

The cost of relocation has been largely met by £1.5m raised by the Lord Mayor's emergency fund. The final cost of rebuilding is expected to reach £1bn. Most of the money will come from the private sector and insurance, with some sought from the Government and the European Union.

Two weeks ago Mr Leese was among a delegation that met Michael Heseltine, the deputy prime minister, to inform him of the likely cost. "Obviously we're concerned about sufficient refunding. Obviously it would be a big list if they announce the refunding at the same time as we announce the plans for rebuilding next Tuesday" he said. That is when the winning ar-

> 'It sends a message that Manchester is

chitectural team in an interna-

tional competition to redesign the city centre will be an-

disappointed if the rebuilding project did not just replace the city centre but significantly im-

back, ready for Christmas'. nounced. -Mr Leese said he would be

Other smaller retailers, however, have not been as fortunate.

At the far end of the Armidia.

Centre, the premature Christmas decorations and fairy lights could not hide the length of chipbelird, Calfolding, and will be a far middle leasant apologies for disruption. Or place to be, but agrainly the business base will be a far middle leasant apologies for disruption. Or place to be, but agrainly the business base will deflict a factorial use and accessibility will also inand accessibility crease," he said.

And in Marks & Spencer yesterday there did not appear to be too many tears for the site destroyed by the bomb. It was come into town once when within a fortnight' said Richard 3 lot more from now on."



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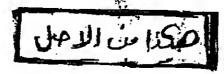
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means maintaining the status quo

Stephen Goodwin

Heritage Correspondent

The National Trust goes to the

polls today in an election with

a certainty of outcome that

would make Messrs Major and

Seventeen names have been

Mawhinney green with envy.

put forward for the nine va-cancies on the trust's 52-mem-

ber council - the policy forum of Britain's largest charity. But

nine of the 17 are actually sit-ting members who will simply

be re-elected for another three

years. The eight other candi-dates stand almost no chance of

Martin Drury: 'Proxy votes are gesture of confidence'

ful order is not upset.

To Mr Nunneley, the gift of

these proxies for use at his dis-

cretion, is an acknowledgement

by the member that the chair-

man is better placed to know

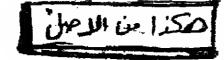
who is the right person for the

Director-general Martin

ny proper running of the charity.

Trust veterans would eat their

news





Leese, leader of the city one

The cost of relocation is been largely mer by fix emergency fund. The finding of rebuilding is experied; reach tibn. Vost of the ma ey will come from the prosector and insurance, with sesought from the Government and the Furopean Union

Iwo weeks ago Mr Leave mong a delegation that & shehael Heschine, the deat. prime minister, to morals of the likely east, "Obioe we're concerned about suffice. refunding Observer awalis a long lest it that authorized and a reputching at the same upg. we authorities the plans for a building next hesdoy here is That's when the comme. etatecorral to an orac mos

> 'It sends a message that Manchester is back, ready for Christmas

negal competition to relegi the city course will be as

Mr I ease and he would cheappearace of the rebuilding project did not just replace the the entire but sometiments to Market Balland Market a second of the 960s find "the are luteether take replaced by building more scripp duction " I will grow a rive an comm westernament in the three states barrances have will be increased the territories and assignable and accomplishently will also be

And in Maria & Spenero traday there disting appears he true many to us for the sky destroyers by the bound, here a partito contentione, wishing and Angelet copermitted the department of discome total total one, whe the common MAS I libeby

ut up to many calls Far East.

Britain's largest private landowner, with an estate of almost 1,000 square miles and 230 properties open to the public. But for nearly all its 101

en the trust in recent years, as "highly democratic". He be-

heves that the member who

vote is saying: "I would like to

make a gesture of my confi-

dence in this extraordinary or-

ganisation and the way it is run."

But to some activists, the sys-tem is unhealthy and potentially

"downright sleazy". In a series of letters to The Independent last

month, long-standing members

portrayed the executive as pa-

ment to preserve for the nation land and buildings of historic interest or natural beauty, the trust has 2.4 million members,

an annual income of more than

£110m and 3,200 staff. It is

Required by Act of Parlia-

tronising and élitist.

years, according to social his-torian John K Walton in a re-cently published paper, the trust has "celebrated a deeply conservative vision of Engli ness", and idealised "the hierarchical society of the country house and the 'close' village". Half the council members are

elected and half appointed from conservation and recreation bodies. Day-to-day running of the trust is the responsibility of the executive committee and professional officers. Today's AGM includes a plea

tweedy caps if the eight pre-tenders swept home at today's for more openness in voting. On resolutions such as those in annual general meeting in the Royal Festival Hall. Thousands the past against deer-hunting or today's attempt to stop tenant of unmandated proxy votes which have already been sent to farmers sending animals to livestock markets, there would be a statement revealing how the chairman had used the unthe chairman, Charles Nunneley, are expected to be used by him to ensure that respectmandated votes. Since AGM votes on reso-

lutions are only advisory, the executive are not giving anything away except their right to conduct everything in the greatest secrecy," said Dr John Wilks, the retired Oxford physicist who submitted the resolution.

Without the "handbag vote' Drury regards the system of votthe term coined in 1990 when ing, whether for council elec-Dame Jennifer Jenkins wieldtions or deciding the issues of ed 50,000 votes for the status animal welfare which have rivquo - deer-hunting by hounds



Famous work of art exposed as a fake

Ireland's National Gallery yesterday ended years of controversy by confirming that one of its most famous paintings, The Goose Girl, was not after all the eech but is by a lesser-known

English painter.
The statement confirms claims which were reported in The Independent last year that the picture, currently in the gallery's Leech exhibition, was almost certainly by a Sheffield-born painter and close contemporary, Stanley Royle (1888-1961).

Both the girl featured in it and the sun-dappled woodland setting exactly matched those in an almost-identical work by Royle, Spring Morning Among the Bluebells.

The National Gallery said The Goose Girl had been examined with a binocular microscope and this had shown clearly for the first time the letters "...ley" and "...le" from a Christian name and a surname, indicating Stanley Royle's sig-

Uncertainty about the work led to years of fierce arguments between art experts in Ireland and Britain, mostly conducted in the columns and letters pages of national newspapers. Among those con-vinced from an early stage that the attribution was incorrect was the art historian Dominic Milmo-Penny who pointed out that it appeared to belong to a whole series of Royle works

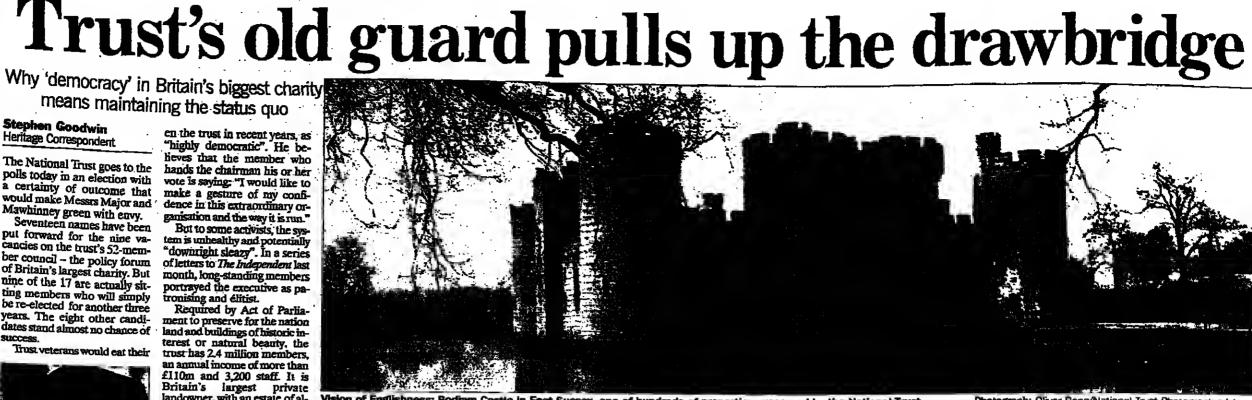
But confusion over the picture's origins had been fuelled by the fact that it was in Leech's possession and used to hang in

It was still attributed to him at the time it was purchased by the Irish National Gallery in 1970. The Goose Girl is now thought to have been painted outside Sheffield around 1921, and not in Brittany as had first been thought. It had been thought to have been from a school of Irish Impressionists including Leech (1881-1968) and Roderick O'Connor who painted in France in the late 19th cen-

The dispute reached a climax last year when Christie's in London held a sale of modern British and continental paint. ings with Royle's Spring Moming Among the Bluebells reproduced in colour on the cat-

This brought home to many Irish observers for the first time the uncanny similarity. "Spring Morning' appears to be a continuation of The Goose Girl, they are so similar," a Dublin art critic observed when the catalogue arrived in the

Raymond Keavency, the Irish National Gallery's director, said the question of he authorship "has now been conclusively resolved". He said the gallery had always intended that the current Leech exhibition "would act as a catalyst to clarify Leech's relationship to



on trust land would have been rejected by a ratio of 5 to 1 and fox hunting by 4 to 1. The "block vote" actually defeated the anti fox-hunting move.

reveal voting details would undermine the principle of a secret ballot and play into the hands of minorities who feel more strongly about single issues than

"It is part of our responsibility as trustees to ensure that vocal minorities do not form the tail that swings the dog."

Rodney Legg, the only reg-ular dissident on the council,

everything would democratise the council and defeat singleissue fanatics, "Some people are conscious they are there be-

Since 1990, 41 out of 43 reuring council members seeking re-election were reappointed. cause of the chairman and

But the would-be reformers are not optimistic. As one pet it: "We groundlings are really asking the aristocrats to or-

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No sleep 'til Tuesday for Clinton and Dole

Rupert Cornwell Santa Barbara, California

Bill Clinton and Boh Dole hurled themselves into a campaign finale of non-stop travel until Tuesday's vote - the President with the goal of securing re-election with an outright majority of the popular vote and helping return a Democratic Coogress, his Republican challenger in the hope of stirring moral outrage enough to cause the greatest upset in US polit-

ical history.
Mr Dole's 96-hour marathon started in the vital Mid-western swing state of Ohio yesterday, with a last-ditch bid to turn the character issue against his opponent. Almost simultaneously. Mr Clinton was due to set out proposals for bipartisan campaign finance reform at a speech here, before heading east to Texas, the third largest electoral prize, which the Democrats hope to capture for the first time in 20 years. A president should set "the

highest standards for everyooe, this is not a game", Mr Dole declared in Columbus. flanked by the former Republican presidents George Busb and Gerald Ford. He lashed out at scandals which have buffeted the White House throughout the Clintoo administration. "It's going to be a referendum

now ... It smells. It stinks, these people are shameless," he said

of the White House and the duhious Democratic fund-raising practices that bave been making headlines here for weeks. "Do the American people care about ethical scandals?" Unfortunately for him, despite a smattering of hecklers and protesters outside Mr Clintoo's

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alas, was almost certainly, not enough.

In many ways the hattle for California, whose 54 electoral votes are a key target of both parties, has been the story of this campaign. Here and all across the West this week, Mr Clinton has been delivering not so much

fuzzy sermon, of bope, barmo-ny and happiness. He makes a point of raising such non-partisan and 21st-century topics as supercomputers and advanced neurological research, all in the calculation he can glide above the fray to overwhelming victory on 5 November.

expected to address specifically the allegations that his party bad trawled illegally for hun-dreds of thousands of dollars in cootributions from East Asian husiness interests, appealing instead for a bipartisan effort to solve a problem that has bedevilled America even before the 1974 Watergate scandal.

Everywhere, however, the crowds have been fizzing and large - as many as 25,000 at an Arizona stop, and 5,000 happy supporters at a Hallowe'en evening rally in a square oo the Oakland waterfroot, across the bay from San Francisco. By contrast Dole events bere have

been beld before enthusiastic

but selected audiences in Republican strongholds, of little avail in narrowing a Clinton lead of between 15 and 20 points.

Nor is his railing over campaign finance likely to change matters. Despite the latest Republican tirades, Americans enerally believe that both parties are at fault. If anything the

Viva el Presidente: Bill Clinton acclaimed in Las Vegas, as polls confirm his lead over Bob Dole is virtually unassailable Photograph: Reuters

reaction could be disgust at the entire political process which could mainly serve only to depress turnout next Tuesday.

Mr Clinton is alive to those fears. Increasingly, he is pitching for his party's congressional candidates, appealing everywhere for a high turn-out to return control of Capitol Hill to the Democrats. But be has a personal ambition too, of winning 51 per cent or more of the popular vote in what is the last major election of his career, and banishing the image of the 43 per cent "minority President" elected in 1992.

Despite Mr Dole's fierce language, yesterday again brought no sign of the 11thbour miracle that alone can save him. A Reuters poll shows Mr Clintoo's lead at a smaller but still forbidding eight points; CNN/USA Today however puts the margin at double that. All though show an advance by the Reform Party candidate Ross Perot, who has long hammered away at the campaign finance issue. "I'm not going to give up, we're going to to win," be in-sisted. "The last time I fought around the clock for my country was in Italy," declared Bob Dole the war hero of 1945, "It was worth it then and it's worth

Bob Dole profile, page 21

hotel at this resort, the answer a political speech as a warm, Even yesterday, he was not Access a new world of information. Communicate with PC users globally PIPEX COLAL all for the cost of a local call Come into Dixons today and find

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THERE'S A GREAT DEAL GOING ON THIS CHRISTMAS



Ioo Iliescu, the former Communist who has ruled Romania since the overthrow of the hated Nicolae Ceausescu, faces a battle for his political survival in presidential and parliamentary elections tomorrow which could mark the first real shift of power in Romania since 1989.

In a final frenzied week of campaigning, Mr Iliescu has ap-pealed to voters to see him as the "father of the nation" and the guarantor of stability and the goals of the December 1989 rev-olution. But in many lowns he has

beeo jeered by crowds angry about the slow pace of economic reform and widespread pover-

toppling of Ceausescu, use a cial Democracy (PDDK), use cial Democracy (PDD and Hungary. For many, liberation from Communism and the coming of the free market have brought hardship, and anger is rising towards those.

opinion polls predict that Mr Iliescu may just emerge slightly ahead of his two main rivals: Emil Constantinescu, an academic who heads the opposition Democratic Convention (CDR) and Petre Roman, a former ime minister with whom the President once worked in tandem. The second-round run-off

deemed responsible.

Almost seveo years after the poll is almost certain to see a de-tough challenge.

tablishment faces a major democratic test on Sunday - a transfer of power," declared the inger is rising towards those independent Adevanil paper in leemed responsible.

In the presidential contest, the only East European countries in the only East European countries in the only East European countries pinion polls predict that Mr III-

transfer of power since 1989." Mr fliescu, who emerged from the shadows of the Communist Party to mastermind the coup against Ceausescu, acknowledges that if be scrapes home in the presidential poli he may have to work with a hostile parliament. But after the bitis planned to take place in two terness' of the election weeks' time. campaign, a French-style system

Serb voters resigned to the Devil they know

Tony Barber Europe Editor

Yugoslavia, the rump state comprising Serbia and Montenegro, holds parliamentary elections tomorrow that seem likely to produce a victory for the left-ist coalition of Serbia's Presi-dent, Slobodan Milosevic.

"The united forces of peace and development . . will celebrate an historical victory over hatred, violence and conservatism," Mr Milosevic told a 6,000-strong crowd in Belgrade last Thursday.

In some ways, it seems as-tonishing that Mr Milosevic should retain the support of the Serbian electorate, given that he has presided over a period of economic collapse as well as na-tionalist wars in Croatia and Bosnia which failed to achieve the goal of pan-Serb unification that be proclaimed in 1991. However, Mr Milosevic benefits from the fact that his polit-ical opponents are internally divided, harassed by the state, and apparently unable to alter the deferential attitudes of Serbian voters towards authority.

The Serbian opposition has put together an electoral coalition, known as Zajedno (Together), which combines political forces from the liberal centre and independent trade unions to the nationalist right. However, in the unlikely event of victory, few political commentators expect the coalition

to stick together.

The odds against the opposition are enormous. State television and radio, the main source of political news for Serbs, have lavished praise on Mr Milosevic for contributing to the 1995 Dayton peace set-tlement in Bosnia, and have entirely ignored the fact that he stoked the Croatian and Bosnian wars in the first place. Oppositioo campaigners



Slobodan Milosevic: Looks certain to be re-elected

have drawn fairly large crowds at electoral rallies in Serbia and Montenegro where they have denounced Mr Milosevic's nineyear period in office. However, few if any of these rallies have received coverage

oo state television.

The main opposition leader, Vuk Draskovic, this week ac-cused Mr Milosevic and his hardline Marxist wife, Mirjana Markovic, of trying to win reelection by resurrecting the World War Two divisions between Serbian royalists and anti-Nazi partisans. "They are

calling for hatred, new trenches and new divisions. They want to step back to 1941. They don't want to move on to the 21st century," he said. The best chance for the op-

position may lie in the sheer desperation of Serbs, whose standards of living have plunged

under Mr. Milosevic. A Red Cross study estimated recently that almost three million people - or 28.9 per cent of the Serb and Mootenegrin populations -

lived in poverty.

In Beigrade and important industrial centres such as Kragu-jevac and Nis, workers have struck in the past three months to demand the prompt payment of wages. Average per capita in-come is the equivalent of about £85 a mooth, the worst level since the 1960s.

However, for many Serbian voters suspicious of change and conscious of the authoritarian pressures on their lives, Mr Milosevic remains the logical choice. His term as president of Serbia expires next year and it is expected he will create the post of Yugoslav president, enabling him to rule unchallenged for another seven years.

garget Aoris GARRELLA Mance to Barciavo, as it is heland of up to Eigh

schoolyard

American woman and charity

workers in dramatic airport dash

through Syrian army check-

points and out of Beirut airport.

hers of a private charity group, based in Houston, Texas, called

The American Association For

Lost Children, which charges no

fee and relies on donations

They took on her case after the US government failed to help. Mrs Henry, from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was in the midst

of divorce proceedings from her Lebanese husband, Saad Fouad

Abdo, a computer engineer, 38, three years ago. At Halloween, she had kept their informal

agreement that he should see

her son Ramzy, now seven, and daughter Nora, now five, on

"He said he would take them

round to trick or treat and get

them some sweets. They were so

excited. I never imagined they would end up in Lebanon and

I wouldn't see them for three

years," she said. "I started off by

calling the Fort Landerdale po-

lice but they just said he's their

father, he has the right. It was

weekends and holidays.

She was helped by two mem-

Phil Davison

until this week.

On Halloween three years ago,

Nabela Henry's separated hus-

band took her two children out

to knock on their Florida neigh-bours' doors with the custom-

ary American "trick or treat".

They ended up in Lebanon

and she did not see them again

In a dramatic re-run of the book and movie Not Without My

Daughter, Mrs Henry, a 26-

year-old American, snatched the children from a Lebanese

school this week and was able

to spend Halloween with them

in her Florida home. This time,

she was not letting them out to

Mrs Henry, an Arabic speaker of half-Egyptian, half-Lebanese extraction but born and brought up in the US, told

The Independent how she had

grahbed the children, aged sev-

en and five, in the northern

Lebanese city of Tripoli on

Monday and talked her way

trick, treat or otherwise.

Nabela Henry (centre) arrives at Miami airport

this week with her son

hringing them back from Tripoli, where they were

taken by their Lebanese father three years ago Photograph: Miarm Herald

Ramzy (left) and her

daughter Nora, after

Wiva el Presidente: Bill Clinton accluimed in las Vegas, as polls confing the icad over Bob Dole to virtually unassailable Phylograph Renters

resolven combine disease afthe cutte hopited broces which could month source only in depress timeout acyl litesia, Mt United is alice to those tears. Increasingly, the is pich and the country of the spirits and the party congression at a randadates. Appealing excrewhere for a high turnout to the theoretical of capital higher Democrats. But he has a personal and more of winning \$1 per cent or more of high popular your in what is the be-

Inductor vote in what is the fat there's election of the cities of banishing the mage of the B per cent into an President elected in 1992 Despite Mr Dole's fiere Incapite sa croics nere language, vesterday again brought no sign of the lith hori annuale that alone ca save him. A Remers poll short Mr Clinton's lead at a smaller but still forbidding eight pome CNNA S I loake however pag the margin at double that All though show aread ance is the Relearn Party candidate Ros Perot, who has long hammered

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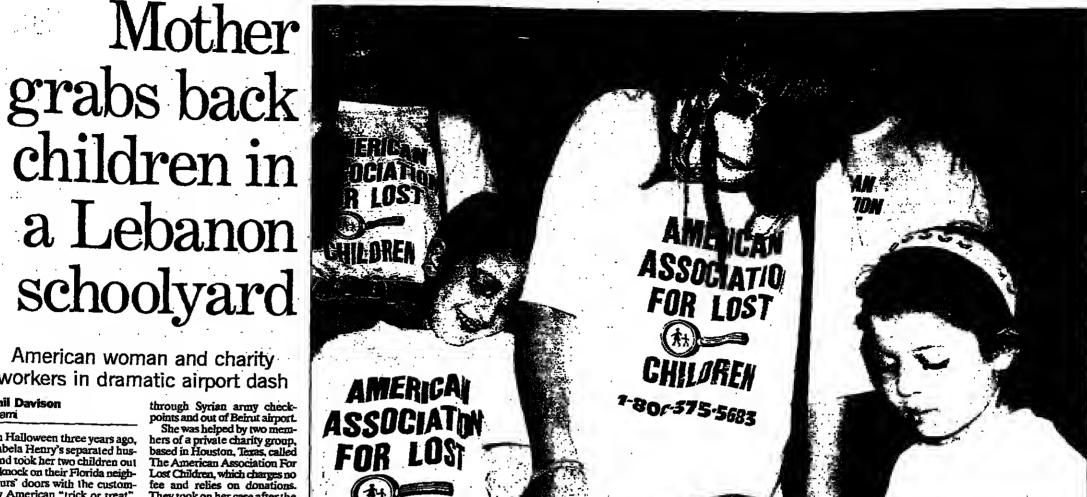
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the following week that a mu-tual friend told me he had received a letter from my husband saying he was either going to take the kids or kill me. I said I

wish he had just killed me." Mrs Henry, since re-married to Michael Henry, an American, then contacted the State Department. "All they did was trace the kids to Tripoli and give me what they called a welfare check, saying they were well but there was nothing else the State Department could do."

Next, she tried a self-styled Lebanese private detective in New Jersey who took her £8,000 - she had pawned her £5,000

wedding ring - then disappeared. When she read about a little girl snatched from her father in Germany by the American Association for Lost Children and returned to her mother in the US, she contacted the Houston group. She, the group's founder Mark Miller, and a woman group member, Pat Moore, neither of the latter Arabic speakers, flew into Beirut from

Lamaca, Cyprus, last Sunday night, spent the night in a hotel and took a taxi north to Tripoli.
"We had traced them to the Tripoli American school, a pri-vate school where kids learn English," Mrs Henry said. "It was just before eight in the morning and kids were milling in the schoolyard. I went up to the fence and asked kids if

they had seen Ramzy or Nora. "I found Ramzy in the yard, he gave me a huge hug, called me mommy and I put him in the taxi. The bell had rung so I went along the corridor, knocked on Class A and asked, in Arabic, for Nora. The teacher told me she was in Class D hur when I went, she wasn't there.

"I went to the principal's office and said I had forgotten to give Nora her lunch money. The principal said she would pass it on, then I realised I had no Lehanese money, I had to go back to the taxi. By the time I got back to the office, the principal was obviously suspicinus but I suddenly saw Nora in the corridor. I just grabbed her up in my arms, walked real fast, then ran to the cab and we sped south towards Junnich [north of

Beirut]. Syrian soldiers kept

stopping us. Mark and Pat kept

quiet, I did the talking. They had planned to take a ferry from Jounieh to Cyprus hut found they had missed it so drove on to Beirut airport.

"We tried to get the first plane to anywhere, which aroused suspicions. Mark man-

aged in get tickets to Paris but the Lebanese immigration officials detained me and the kids, I had got American passports for the kids in the States but obviously there were no stamps on them. I said the authorities in Cyprus and Beirut must have lorgot to stamp them. Then they asked why I had

come in for one night and was leaving so soon. I said Beirut had been more expensive than I'd expected. I'd spent all my money . . . They finally believed me, said the immigration officials on duty the night before would be reprimanded for forgetting to stamp the kids' pass-

ports and let me go, it was about ipm, when we boarded the plane. I was a nervous wreck. then the pilot announced there would be a delay. I thought my husband must have shown up and that they'd come and get me. But we finally took off. I cried, Mark cried, Pateried, The kids said don't cry any more, monimy, why are you crying! I said we're going home."

Finally arriving in New York on Tuesday, Mrs Henry was questioned by immigration whose files showed that she had listed her children as missing. Atter calls to Fort Lauderdale police, she was allowed to fly on to Miami and a tearful reunion with relatives, Legally, US authorities say the children are hers since they have no official knowledge that she "kidnapped" them in Lebanon. But if her husband gets them back to Lebanon, there's nothing the US can do. The children seemed to have re-adapted quickly to Florida, gazing at the Disney Channel and video games and telling their mather they never wanted in go back to Lehanon, But Mrs Henry fears her husband may return, "He may try again, I'll always be looking over my shoulder," she said.

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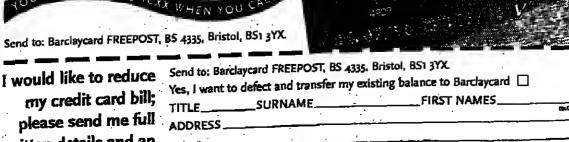
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Rival Kurds sign peace accord

Hopes rise that war has ended, though old mistrusts persist in dividing rivals

Patrick Cockburn

After two months of fighting, rival Kurdish parties have signed a peace accord which brings an end to the latest phase in the civ-il war in Kurdistan. The agree-ment, mediated by the US, Britain and Turkey at a two-day meeting in Ankara, commits both sides not to seek support from outside powers.

The war has seen rapidly

changing fortunes on the bat-tlefield. The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan led by Jalai al-Tala-bani first attacked, allegedly with Iranian support, on 17 August. Facing defeat the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Massoud Barzani allied itself with Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, and drove Mr Talabani out of most of Kurdistan, only to see him, again with Iranian support, regain most of his

losses in a counter-offensive.
"This is a good blueprint for re-establishing the Kurdish regional government in northern said Robert Pelletreau, the US Assistant Secretary of State at the end of the meeting. A blueprint is what it is likely to remain since the divisions be-tween the two sides are too deep for a joint administration to be

According to the agreement Kurdistan will be divided along the hattlelines as they were on 23 October, prisoners will be released and neither side is to dis-rupt the distribution of humanitarian aid. The accord is to be monitored by a group in-cluding members of the Assyrian and Turcoman minorities in normern iraq. The invoivement of the Turcomans shows greater Turkish influence, while the US has abandoned the Iraqi National Congress (INC), an Iraqi resistance movement part-ly financed by the CIA. In the past the US has proposed the INC as a ceasefire monitor.

Despite the declarations by the PUK and KDP that they will oot rely oo outside powers, the



months has sharply increased the influeoce of Baghdad and Tehran in Iraqi Kurdistan. Boun parties have fallen further into the hands of Iraq and Iran," says Laith Kubba, an opposition intellectual. because of the support of Saddam and theo the Iranians put Talabani back in business.

The Kurdish civil war, which began in 1994, has seriously damaged aspirations for Kurdish self-determination which had soared in the wake of the

Kurdish uprising at the end of the Gulf war. "Unfortunately in defeat the Kurds do not compromise but look for an outside supporter," says Kamran Karadaghi, a Kurdish journal-

The accord may open the way for the implementation of the oil-for-food deal, to be worth \$2bn every six months, which was agreed between Iraq and the UN in May. This could prove to be vital for the many Kurds who had heard rumours of immanent UN food aid in the

sowing season, and therefore sive by the PUK, apparently delayed planting crops this year. sive by the PUK, apparently with heavy Iranian support, has delayed planting crops this year.

Iraq has criticised the agree-

men., Al-traq newspaper said yesterday: The peace imposed by America [in northern Iraq] is fragile and shaky because it is implemented in order to achieve American interests. Nevertheless Saddam Hussein has been able to prove that he still has a potent army by his brief intervention on 31 Angust when his tanks helped the KDP take the Kurdish capital Arbil. The successful counter-offenmade Mr Barzani more reliant

province by Mr Talabani shows that he has popular support among its 1.2 million people. But having lost the Kurdish capital Arbil his PUK party will be more than ever reliant on Iran-The extent of this reliance was hinted at in letters that had passed between the two parties,

and that were found by the KDP in September.

In the overall balance sheet war Iraq and Iran have both strengthened their positions. The US has lost a little credibility by failing to stop Saddam Hussein using his tanks. The biggest losers are the Kurds themselves whose divisions have preveoted them establishing a Knrdish power, let alone an independent state, in the mountains of north-eastern

Phone gossips caught by the Net

Charles Arthur Science Editor

Americans, and especially Cal-ifornians, who feel that it's good to talk on the telephone are finding it harder to get through, hecause of the growing numbers who reckon it's better to surf.

The explosive growth of the Internet, which has doubled in size in the past year, and today has more than seven times as many computers connected to it than in 1993, is leading to hlocked local telephone exchanges in parts of the US.

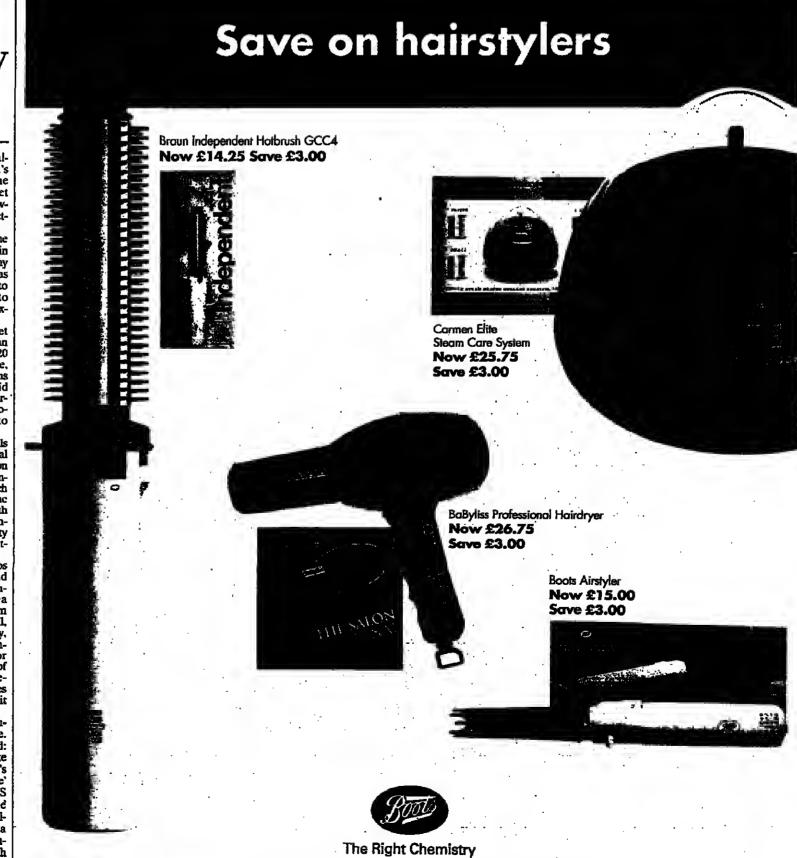
Calls to access the Internet

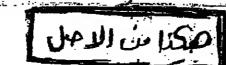
are typically much longer than voice calls – an average of 20 minutes rather than three, though some Internet sessions can last hours. And the rapid growth in Internet use has over-whelmed the ability of the local telephone companies to upgrade exchange capacity.

The result is engaged signals or long silences before the dial tone is available, a phenomenon which technicians call "contention". Bellcore, the research arm of the US local telephone companies, says that the growth of Internet use "poses an im-mediate threat to the capacity of the public relephone net-

work". In California, home to Los Angeles. San Francisco and the high concentration of hightech industries in the area south of San Francisco known as Silicon Valley, Pacific Bell, the local telephone company, has found that one in 10 "Internet" calls lasts six hours or more. As a result, I per cent of callers in California face a delay in getting a line; but at times this year the figure has hit

16 per ceni. However, the problem is unlikely to be repeated in Europe. A spokesman for BT said: "We're not seeing anything like this at the moment. And it's worth noting that the backbone telephone oetwork in the US isn't overloaded. It's all al the local level." The problem in California was the result of "a very high concentration of Internet usage in a small area with a network that was designed for





embroil in home scanda

rccord Chirac embroiled in homes scandal Mary Dejevsky

R the Pill INDERFORD

The tangled scandal of Paris council housing has taken on a new, hitter dimension with the revelation that some "élite" flats leased out by the council originally belonged to Jews who were deported during the Nazi occupation, and which were never returned to them.

A small charge of dynamite in the revelations, which was omitted by the French press when it reported the evidence of Jewish ownership, is that the tenant of one such flat is none other than the brother-in-law of the French President, Jacques

The allegations are made in a book which has just been pub-lished, and which details the hislory of what is known as the city's "Domaine Prive". This is the disparate collection of more than 300 buildings, including at least 1,300 flats - the number may be twice or three times higher - which are owned and maintained by the council and let at far helow market rents to hand-picked members of the political and cultural elite.

The existence of the "domaine", which was long shrouded in secrecy, periodically came to the attention of the city auditors in post-war years - only to be swept deftly under the carpet again, once the strength of vested interests became clear.

But last year, the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, who had managed to lodge himself and four members of his family in such flats while head of the Paris city council's accounts depart-ment, was forced to choose between prosecution and moving out. When the extent of the property holdings of the mayor, Jean Tiberi, hecame known shortly afterwards - both his adult children were lodged at cut-price reuts, while letting out a total of four flats they owned at market rents - the

game seemed to be almost np. Mr Tiberi, a newly re-elected mayor with a smaller majority than his predecessor, Mr Chirac, announced a full audit of the "domaine privé" and promised the better-quality flats would be sold on the open market when they were vacated, or the leases came up for renewal. The rest would he distributed to those on the council waiting list. City coun-

cillors were warned that if they had awarded themselves flats from this stock, they should recall the threat to prosecute Mr

A few vacant flats have been sold. Otherwise, the inquiry is proceeding slowly. Now, as a re-sult of the revelations made by the journalist. Brigitte Vital-Durand, in her book, further sales have been frozen, pending research into the history of the flats concerned. The investiga-tions are being backed by Jew-ish campaigners, including Serge and Beate Klarsfeld.

On the basis of city archives and witness testimony. Ms Vi-tal-Durand establishes that 150 flats concentrated in the southern Marais district of central Paris were obtained by the council during and immediately after the war. The council's intention, she says, was to create a district, close to the town hall, into which the city administration could spread and where the flite could be housed.

She traces the history of individual streets and houses, showing how the council used emergency slum-clearance measures decreed by the Vichy government to take over tracts of housing in the largely Jewish district of the southern Marais, on grounds of "sanitation". The deportations of 1943-3 helped to clear many of the owners and tenants who remained. Nowadays, the author says, this would be called "ethnic cleansing"

The vast majority of the buildings taken over by the council were never returned. Many of the original owners and their families died in the concentration camps. Some of the buildings were demolished. But of the few who tried to reclaim them, even fewer were suc-A discreet leitmotif of Ms Vi-

tal-Durand's book is the juxtaposition of two families. One is the Zajdners, who died at Auschwitz, and whose daughter, Sarah, persuaded Mr Chirac, during last year's presidential election campaign, to allow her to place a memorial plaque in a garden, now owned by the council, which is all that is left of their family house at 4, Rue Eginbard. The other family are the Courcels, Chaudron de Courcel to be precise, headed by the brother of Mr Chirac's wife, Bernadette. They live next door, at number 6.

On All Saints' Day, Belgians remember children



Mourners covering the graves yesterday of the four young girls murdered by a child-sex ring

covered the graves of four young girl victims of a Belgian paedophile ring with bousands of chrysanthemums yesterday to

mark All Saints' Day, a national boliday in most Catholic countries. Hundred of coup holding hands with their young children and many

graveyards where eight-year-old Julie Lejt no and Melissa Russo, and Ap Marchal, 17, and Eefje Lambrecks, 19, were buried. They also stood before the

shedding tears, visited the

uses muned by Marc Dutroux, the man alleged to have run the paeduphile ring which kidnapped and murdered (bem.

The child-murder and ses candal has recked Belgium since the girls' bodies were discovered over the summer. triggering nation-wide strikes and demonstrations across the country.

Meanwhite, in Croatia, Croat refugees from Eastern Slavnnia made their first visit in years to the Serb-held enclave in commemorate their dead and catch • limpse of their homes. Some 40 buses carrying more than 2,000 refugees crossed to Serb-held territory escorted by the UN civil police, and jnint Croat-Serb police patrols. Men and women. some dressed in black and carrying flowers, were allowed a me-hour visit to 30 grave sites scattered all over Eastera Slavonia.

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A pay rise for the Gurkhas as they leave Hong Kong - and their families - behind



Stephen Vines

everywhere, starting oo the Polo Field, where the ceremo-Hong Kong ny was held. The field is, in fact, Everything about the Gurkhas' a foothall pitch. The Malaya presence in Hong Kong is slightly incongruous, so it was Lines, where the Gurkhas are not surprising that last night's departure ceremony should add the oddness. Service here, be leaving appear to be doing so without regret. They have to the oddness.

the Nepalese soldiers have become victims of cuts and the reversion of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty, which will ensure that their soon-to-berenovated barracks are handed to the incoming People's Liberation Army garrison.

As for the incongruity, it was

based, have no connection with Malaya or modern Malaysia. and the 700 Gurkhas who will never really been part of the colony, nor integrated into the rest of the British garrison. Yet they have developed a

taste for things British, ranging, from a liking for spam sandwiches to an affection for Scottish melodies. Thus it was that the Band of the Brigade of

Gurkhas belted out "Scotland the Brave" and "The Skye Boat Song" into the warm night air. A traditional dance using the kukri knife, which has been de-ployed for less benign purposes, was also part of the proceedings, as was the lowering of the Union and Royal

hand played "Sunset". "A time of parting is a time of sadness, especially when long years of service have developed friendship and respect," said Governor Chris Patten, who pointed out that the Gurkhas had helped protect Hong

Gurkha Rifles flags while the

ment. In practice this largely meant patrolling the border to prevent a flood of illegal imigrants from mainland China.

The job is neither pleasant nor rewarding, hut Gurkhas are not famous for complaining. As they prepare to pack, they are showing no signs of complaining about the move which will leave 71 men redundant and take 600 to a new posting with 5 Airborne Brigade in Britain.

Those going to Britain are happy they will be getting a rise. In Hong Kong the Gurkhas were always paid significantly less than British soldiers in the

garrison. The bad news is that they will not be allowed to travel with their families. It seems the Army does not mind Gurkhas having something ap-proaching a normal family life as long as they do not do so oo British soil.

The Gurkhas, in white shirts and regimental ties, watched last night's ceremony with evident enjoyment. They were officially off duty, and, like the other military guests, not in uniform. However, the Gurkhas never really seem to be off duty - dis-

cipline lingers at all times. This may explain why there is a vogue in Hong Kong for em-

Photograph:Reuter/SCMP - Mark Rattson ploying retired Gurkhas as se-curity guards. They are viewed as far more disciplined and

alert than the Chinese. Whether

the incoming regime will toler-

ate their presence is not known. The Gurkhas will be replaced by the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, which marks a piece of military coming full circle. The regiment was in the colony in 1842, the year China was forced to sign the Treaty of Nanking, ceding Hong Kong island to the British in perpetuity. On 30 June next year they will provide the military presence at the ceremony marking the end of British rule.

significant shorts

on church 'was wrong'

The head of Germany's parliamentary interior affairs suspect they believe drove committee said Bavaria was the explosives-laden truck committee said Bavaria was wrong to exclude Church of wrong to exclude Church of Scientology members from the civil service. It would be more efficient to do a tax audit of the organisation in Germany, Wilfried Penner, of the opposition Social Democrats, said. There could be "members ... who have a firm conviction without being caught up in anything criminal or offensive". Bavaria is the first of Germany's 16 regional states to impose restrictions on public-sector employment of Scientology

China expels **HK** activists

China has told two Hong Kong democracy activists, Wong Chung-ki and Chui Pak-tai, to leave after they tried to petition officials over the future of the colony. Hong Kong sources said the two had been trying to petition officials over what they called undemocratic methods used to select a chief executive to run the colony after it reverts to Peking next year. Reuter - Peking

Defence boss slurs his lines

President Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus dismissed his Defence Minister for turning up drunk at a ceremony. Leonid Maltsev had earlier arrived over medal with Mr Lukashenko to mark the 75th anniversary of a medical institute in Minsk. "The reason for his sacking was the general's behaviour, who was drunk at the moment when he bad to deliver an opening speech at the celebrations," the Russian Interfax agency said.

Bavaria ban Saudis claim they hold key bomb suspect

parewe

Saudi officials are holding a that destroyed part of a housing complex in Dhahran in June, killing 19 Americans, Sources quoted by the Washington Post said he is among 40 Saudis being held because officials believe they were involved in the bomhing. AP - Washington

Settler faces death charge

Israeli anthorities charged a Jewish settler, Nahum Kurman, with manslaughter over the death of an 11-year-old Palestinian, saying he beat the boy on the head with a pistol butt. Hilmi Shousha died on Monday, a day after Arab witnesses said Mr Kurman beat him to death during a stoning incident. Reuter - Jerusalem

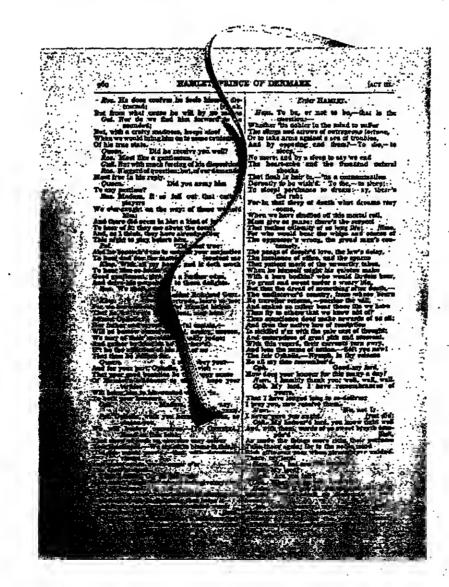
Burma squares up to the EU

Burma was considering reciprocal sanctions against the European Union after it limited contacts with Burmese officials this week because of Rangoon's repressive policies. The Foreign Mmister, Ohn Gyaw, said: "We are saying 'Leave us alone; it is our

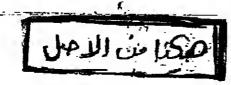
US joins row

The US deplored the award of a gold medal to Nigeria's military ruler, Sani Abacha, by the head of UN agency, the World Intellectual Property Organization, despite condemnation of the country by two other UN bodies for its poor human-rights record. AP - Geneva

It's just a string of iambic pentameters, until you enjoy the performance.







Dulce et Decorum Est

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US joins row * over medal The Estate of the Re-

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Farewell to misery of poison gas



An image that may have been banished: John Singer Sargent's Gassed, showing the aftermath of an attack in the First World War. The new treaty prohibits the use of chemical weapons Impenal War Museum

Ban takes effect in six months

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

The most hated and despised weapons ever devised will be banned by international agree-ment next year. The last burdle to a global, permanent ban on chemical weapons - poison gas and droplets which choke, poison blood or destroy the nervous system - has been passed with Hungary ratifying the in-ternational Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). It will come into force on 29 April, af-

ter 28 years of negotiations. Last night politicians, diplomats and arms control experts expressed delight. "This means CWC will definitely enter into force in six months' time," sald David Davis, minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. "This is a milestone in international arms control efforts. The CWC is the first convention but is regarded as a

multilateral treaty to impose a complete ban on an entire class of weapons and a verification

regime to monitor compliance." Some 160 nations have signed the convention. Britain was the 51st, on 13 May this year. With Hungary, it has been ratified by 65, the number necessary to bring it into force. The US and Russia, the only

nations that bave admitted still possessing chemical weapons, have not ratified the convention but as signatories they will be bound by it and will have to destroy all their remaining chemical weapons stocks. A review conference is to be held within 30 days of the convention coming into force and if the US and Russia want to attend they will have to have ratified it.

Iraq, which has made most use of chemical weapons in recent times, has not signed the "special case", subject to surveillance by the UN Special Commission on Iraq. The ban binds signatories to

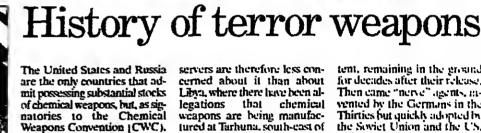
destroy production facilities and never to develop, produce, acquire or stockpile chemical weapons or transfer them to anyone, never to use chemical weapons and never to assist or encourage anyone to engage in any other activity prohibited by the convention, including the use of riot-control gases in warfare. Industrial, agricultural and pharmaceutical research, and research designed to enhance protection against chem-

ical weapons, is still allowed. Following their use in the First World War, the use of chemical weapons was banned by the 1925 Geneva Protocol. However, the right to use chemical weapons in retaliation was retained by many states, and the protocol did not stop the Ital-

ians using them in Abyssinia. Chemical weapons underwent further development in the Thirties, with Germany developing nerve gas. The threat re-mained during the Second World War and the Cold War. Negotiations on a treaty began in 1968 but progress was made only after a US-USSR agreement in 1990. This committed both to reducing their stocks to 5,000 tons by 2002. The remainder will now be destroyed.

"There isn't a political problem with that but the disposal of these substances will be expensive," said Anil Wahwa, spokesman for the Preparatory Commission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in the Hague, set up under the convencion.

A OPCW will now be set up. with a member from each of the signatory states, and an executive council of 41.



scale production facilities, writes Christopher Bellowy. The only exceptions are re-search establishments such as Britain's Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down in Wilishire, producing small quantities of chemicals designed to permit experiments relating to defensive measures. Under the CWC, each state may keep one ton of the most lethal

they will now be obliged to de-

stroy them, along with any large-

agents for such purposes.
The nations which still cause concern - none of which have signed the convention - are lraq, Libya and Iran, Iraq is sub-Victim of Iraq's nerve gas attack on Halabja In 1988 ject to a special United Nations regime and international ob-

servers are therefore less concerned about it than about Libya, where there have been allegations that chemical weapons are being manufactured at Tarhuna, south-east of Tripoli. There has also been concern about a plant at Rabta. Libya denied the latter, saying the \$20m (£13m) plant pro-duced pharmaceuticals

Iran has allegedly produced mustard gas, chlorine, phosgene and hydrogen cyanide and is believed to be able to produce nerve gases such as varin. Chemical weapons are rela-

tively easy to make. There are four main categories. The first, initially used in 1915, are simple "choking" agents - chlorine and phosgene. Next came "hlister" agents - dichlorethyl sul-phide, or mustard gas, first used in 1916. Besides heing able to penetrate clothing, these agents can also he very persis-

tent, remaining in the ground for decades after their release. Then came "nerve" agents, mvented by the Germans in the Thirties but quickly adopted by the Soviet Union and the US. which give rise to involuntary nerve impulses, causing convulsions and death.

The tourth type are "blood" agents such as hydrogen cyanide, which are tethal but disperse very quickly. There are also toxins, which are of biological origin but act as poisons.

Iraq's use of chemical weapons has been the most blatant in recent years. In 1988, during the Iran-Iraq war, the Iraqis used it against the Kurds at Halabja, killing an estimated 5,000 people. After the Gull war, the Allies denied that the tragis had made any use of their chemical stocks, but has emerged since that there were several large releases.

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J. R. Jayawardene

When distinguished politicians die at a very great age it is often said that their lives spanned eras that seem as distant in time as in spirit. Of no politician can this observation be more appropriate than Junius Richard Jayawardene, who began his ca-reer at a time when Sri Lanka, then Ceylon, was often referred to as the "Switzerland of the East", and finished it when that same island had become a byword for terror, abuse of buman rights and many other things distinctly undemocratic. The critical question that will face his biographer is to assess to what extent, if any, did Jayawardene (always known as JR) contribute to the national tragedy that forms the backdrop

He was born in 1906, one of II children in a family at the very heart of the Ceylonese Anglophile elite. The Jayawardenes had emerged under the Dutch, done well under the British and by the turn of the century had become very pow-erful indeed. His father, E.R. Jayawardene, was appointed Chief Justice in 1924, and his uncle, D.R. Wijewardene. owned the most powerful newspaper publishing group in

He was successful at school, hut did not (since family finances were always a problem) leave the island to attend a forcign university. This was a source of considerable personal regret though in the long term may have been to his advantage. Certainly Invawardene's world view would always he less Anglocentric, more international-Oxford-educated contemporaries. At a time when most

Ceylonese were still preoccupied with their country's relations with Europe, be perceived that its future lay with Asia. In 1946, as Ceylonese delegate to the Peace Conference in San Francisco, he pleaded for fair play for the defeated Japanese, something that country never forgot and would generously reward in later years. He was co-author of the 1950 Colombo Plan for Asian Economic Development after the Second

World War. Jayawardene studied at Colombo Law School, was called to the Bar and by his midthirties had established himself in his profession, married a great heiress, and acquired a reputation as one of the most elligent, cultivated, articulate and ambitious young men of his generation. It is also said that he was amongst the most arrogant and least popular.

There was ample scope for jealousy. Political life was dominated by his unashamedly nepotistic cousins by marriage, the Senanayakes, who groomed him for office. In his politics he was accused of hypocrisy and opportunism - professing Marx-ism while leading the life of a plutocrat, praising secularism and pluralism while promoting policies undisguisedly chauvin-istic. While still a young man he publicly suggested the adoption by the United National Party of a "Sinbala only" language policy. This was eventually put into law by his opponent and most formidable contemporary S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, and would prove to be utterly

Like Bandaranaike, Jayawardene went to some pains to throw off the Western trappings

in which he had been steeped. He converted to Buddhism, acquired competent Sinhala and adopted an improvised "national dress". Inevitably these changes were criticised as insincere, though he claimed to be a convinced Buddhist.

They were also essential. Javawardene realised before many others that in a democracy (which Ceylon became in 1931) the elite could no longer afford to be alienated from the majority in religion, manners, language and dress. His father had believed that

the British Empire would last a

thousand years. Javawardene.

like the rest of his generation, did not. When independence came in 1947, he was wellpositioned to take office. He was offered and accepted the Finance Ministry. In later years this would be one of the least in the honeymoon period immediately post-independence the island's finances were reasonably healthy. Ceylon had become well-off in the war, and its commodities were valuable. In his first hudget speech he was able to announce to Parliament that Ceylon was the richest nation per capita in

petent and generally admired. The honeymoon ended in 1953, when faced with an alarming budget crisis, he attempted to cut the rice subsidy. The re-sult was deep unpopularity from which he was not to recover for a very long time. He lost his seat in 1956 and remained out of Parliament until 1960.

Asia after Japan, a statement

now somewhat painful to recall.

His policies were prudent, com-

This in effect ended the first phase of Jayawardene's politi-



lene: radical programme of political and econo

cal career. There followed a long gap until 1977 when, aged 71, he was elected Prime Minister by a landslide. The intervening period, dominated by the Bandaranaike family, was one of rapid economic decline and increasing social confusion. For all sorts of reasons, some unavoidable - the population boom, for instance, and declining terms of trade - but many others artificially created, the island found itself in increasingly difficult circum-

stances and was left out of the general rise to prosperity that took place in other Asian countries.

Jayawardene's own politics at this time drifted steadily to the right. He became convinced that the sub-Marxist, anti-Western stance of Sri Lankan government since 1956 had contributed to its economic failure. He believed, correctly, that the success of Ceylon under colonial rule had had much to do with its combination of foreign capital and expertise with local resources, and endeavoured to create the same

In office he immediately set about a radical programme of political and economic change. Diplomatically he re-aligned Sri Lanka with the West, seeking at the same time Western cooperation in the development of the Sri Lankan economy, along the lines of successful newly industrialised countries of

South East Asia. At first things seemed to go very well indeed. He rewrote the constitution to adopt a Frenchtype presidential system. Economic initiatives such as the creation of the Free Trade Zone brought in a good deal of foreign investment. Vast amounts of aid were lined up for the Mahaweli damming and irriga-tion scheme. The Economist magazine in 1981 praised his adroit management and talked of the island's "economic miracle". The Queen, visiting in 1982, spoke in the same vein. There was talk of Sri Lanka oining the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). It was not long afterwards that things began to go very wrong indeed on all fronts.

Rapid spending, some of it on unnecessary prestige projects, caused inflation which in turn brought social unrest. Further constitutional amendments marginalised the legitimate opposition and concentrated an unhealthy degree of power in his own hands.

Improvidence and mild megalomania, however, were not as serious as Jayawardene's failure to handle in its early stages the grievances of the island's minority community, the

Tamils. The history of the Tamil uprising is very complex in-deed. While there was never the possibility of a simple solution, even the most sympathetic observer of Sri Lankan affairs

must come to the conclusion rural Sinhalese whom Jayawar that his handling of the problem was far from adroit. From the beginning Jayawardene seemed not to realise the seriousness of Tamil grievances, and lost the chance to negotiate with the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) MPs when he clumsily obliged them to resign from Parliament in 1981. It might be argued that

from July 1983, when commu-

nal violence began in earnest,

there was nothing to be done to

save the situation. It is doubtful however, whether any strategy could have been more disastrous than that which be chose to pursue. Jayawardene opted for a military solution, but did so without the crucial cooperation of India, and without realising the Tamils' military and diplomatic strength. India, by arming the rebels and offering them safe haven, rendered the military objectives ludicrous. Internationally Tamil pressure-groups hlackened the

name of Jayawardene and his government, which saw its aid receipts drop and its expenses rise. The violence went from bad to worse. Decisions were in effect removed from Jayawardene's hands in 1987 by Rajiv Gandhi, who forced on him the Indo-Lankan Accord and despatched a peace-keeping

force to control the situation. If internationally this was humiliating, domestically it was disastrous. Jayawardene, for long hated by the Tamils, now became public enemy number

one of the Sinhalese. He narrowly survived an assassination attempt in August 1987.

there is

mains health on

In the JVP (People's Liberation Front) nprising of 1988-89 it was clear that to ordinary dene had in the past championed, he was an object of profound, irrational hatred. He is likely to remain so for many years. During his last year in office he was obliged to sign emergency regulations which granted the army and police powers that in all hut name amounted to martial law. These were much abused.

Anyone who called at Braemar, Jayawardene's bouse in Colombo, during his last year or so in office (he resigned to permit elections in February 1989) found a man alarmingly out of touch. He seemed re mote, exhausted, bewildered. and astounded to read of himself compared to fascist dictators or South American tyrants.

On the positive side, post-Jayawardene Sri Lanka remains a democracy, and now boasts a small but important private sector. It might be that in the next decades Sri Lanka achieves the success that JR so passionately desired, but which proved so cruelly elusive during his own very long life.

Junius Richard Jayawardene, lawyer and politician: born Colombo 17 September 1906; Minister of Finance, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka 1947-53, Leader of Opposition 1970-77, Prime Minister 1977-78, President 1978-89; married 1935 Elina Rupesinge (one son); died Colombo I No-



m and African patterns

Siddig El Nigoumi

Like his pots, Siddig El Nigoumi was quiet and unass hut full of conviction and

Born in the Sudan, he developed an early interest in the malleable qualities of clay when, in the absence of conventional toys, he played with the highly plastic marl he discovered in swamp ponds by the side of the White Nile, as many childreo had done before him. A career as a potter did not follow im-

After receiving conventionteacher-training, Siddig worked for two years as Arabic Calligrapher for the Publications Bureau in Khartoum, an occupation which he enjoyed. The traditional forms and the discipline of the craft gave his work a powerful rhythmic sense, as well as an awareness of the importance of the placing of

Inspired by the idea of becoming an artist, Siddig enrolled in a three-year course at the School of Art in Khartoum, during which time he began to specialise in pottery. A brief period of teaching followed until, in 1957, he was awarded a government grant to study ceramics at the Central School of Art in London. Afterwards, he returned to Khartoum where he was appointed deputy head of the ceramics department at the School of Art. During this time he married "Vicky" Vickery, a fellow student from the Central School of Art, and they started to raise their family.

Feeling that the opportunities for a creative porter in the Sudan were limited, Siddig, his wife and children moved to England in 1967. Here he faced the challenging but ultimately rewarding task of establishing himself and his work in a for-

eign country. The family settled in Farnham and shortly afterwards Siddle became involved with the highly regarded ceramic course at what was then the Farnham School of Art - first as a technician, then as one of the disinguished band of part-time

In the early 1970s Siddig was elected to membership of the Craft Potters Association, and became a regular exhibitor in galleries in London and elsewhere. His professional success was assured when in 1980 and 1981 the Victoria and Albert Museum acquired several of his pieces for its collection.

thrower, Siddig was attracted techniques with other potters, more to the slow and contem- and enthusiasts watched enplative processes of handbuilding. Following his arrival in England, he made reductionfired stoneware, with decorations based on the rich patterns of house decoration in Northern Sudanese Nubîa. Its qualities recalled the subtle work carried out by Michael Cardew in West Africa a few years earlier. Siddig's main interest, however, lay in developing traditional African terracotta earthenwares.

All his pots were built by coiling and smoothing, or by pressing slabs of clay into plaster of Paris moulds. Some pieces were covered with a thin layer of slip

made from Nile Valley clay, which produced a glowing rich orange-red colour. The slip was highly prized by Siddig who said it was irreplaceable.

Some surfaces were hurnished by rubbing with a stone, and all were incised with a highly distinctive decoration which effortlessly merged so-phisticated Western iconography with traditional African patterns. Landscapes often sported crisp drawings of airthe Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, while others included delightful highly stylised animals or subtle repeating patterns. One dish in the collection of the V & A commemorates the "Great Royal Wedding" of 1981, the design incorporating a schematised scorplon and the Union flag.

Siddig was always willing to Despite being a highly skilled demonstrate and discuss his thralled as he slowly but methodically built up his pots and decorated them with beguiling skills. As a finale, on pots which had already been fired in the electric kiln, he would smoke the surface with a lighted taper of finely rolled newspaper, the flame licking the surface and depositing a thin hut delicate mottled patterning, animating the pots with the fragrance of his native Africa.

Emmanuel Cooper

Siddig El Nigoumi, ceramicist: born 1 January 1931; married Eileen Vickery; died 10 October 1996.

John Young

As Mr McPherson, the gentle minister in Take The High Road, the actor John Young was a favourite with viewers of the Scottish television serial throughout the Eighties. The role of the widowed clergyman came along at the end of a long stage, film and television career. when most people would be thinking of retiring.

Born in Edinburgh during the First World War, Young did various jobs on leaving school before joining the Jevan Brandon-Thomas Company at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. He had longed to become an actor since going to his first pantomime, at the age of four, recalling it as "sheer magic". He also acted in rep at the Citizens' Theatre, Glasgow and the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, and subsequently performed in most of Scotland's theatres.

Following war service, he resumed his stage career, with two of his most notable performances coming in Roddy MacMillan's The Bevellers and Bill Bryden's Willie Rough.

Young was most prolific on television throughout the Seventies, most notably as Ramsay MacDonald in Jim Allen's acclaimed BBC series Days of Hope (1975), and as Alexander Carus in the Granada Television production of Adam Smith (1972-73). He later made appearances in Hess (1978), the Omega Factor (1979), The Houseman's Tale (1985-87), and The Justice Game (1989).

He had already acted in the Scottish Television series Gar-

landed the part of Ian McPherson in Take the High Road, which began in 1980 when ITV was looking for a new daytime soap opera. The calm of life in the fictional Scottish village of Glendarroch fitted the bill and Young brought to his performance a sensitivity that matched the role for which he had been cast. This was most tellingly seen when the minister, Mr McPberson, announced his retirement and the news that Glendarroch would be twined with the neighbouring parish of St Ninian's, Auchtaran. To pave the way, he and the minister of St Ninian's, the fire-andbrimstone Mr Parker (played by Young's own son, the actor Paul Young), took services in each other's parishes. The villagers rebelled, persuaded Mr McPherson to cootinue as minister, and the parish retained its independent status. Eventually, Mr McPherson did retire and handed over to his assistant, the

Rev Michael Ross. Young, who himself retired before the serial shortened its title to High Road, also acted in the films Monty Python and The Holy Grail (1975), Monty Python's Life of Brian (1979), Black Jack (as Dr Hunter, 1979), Chariots of Fire (as the Rev J. D. Liddell, father of the heroic athlete Eric, 1981), and Time Bandits (1981).

Anthony Hayward

John Young, actor: born Edinburgh 18 June 1916; married (one son); died Glasgow 30 Oc-

Births, Marriages & Deaths

KHANNA: On 15 October, at Birm-ingham Women's Hospital, to Kate (nee Lambert) and Mickey, a daugh-ter. Georgia, a sister for Sophia, Rawan and Julian.

ments for Gazette AIRTILS, Announcements for Gazette AIRTIIS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births. Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding armic ersaries, In Memoriant should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Landon E14 5DL telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2016, and are charged at \$6.50 a line IVAT extra). UTHER Gazette announcements inotices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or fasted) and are charged at \$10 o line, VAT extra. They should be accompassed by a daytime telephone number.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS TODAY: Prince Edward, Trustee, attend the Duke of Edinburgh's Award London Regional Conference for Award Leaders at the Barbican, London ECC, Prince Michael attends the Veteran Car Club An-nual Dinner at the Cafe Royal, London W. TOMORROW: Prince Michael par-ticipates in the London to Brighton Cen-ternary Veteran Car Run.

Changing of the Guard TODAY: The Household Cavairy Moone ed Regiment mounts the Oncen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; 1st Battation Webb Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Bucklagham Palace, 11 Mam, hand provided by the Webb Guards. TOMORROW: The Household Cavalry Birthdays TODAY: Lord Ashburton, forme

chairman, Barings, 68; The Earl of Aylesford, former Lord-Lieutenant of the West Midlands region, 78; Lady Bathurst, former diplomat, 76; Sir David Calcutt QC, former Mas-ter, Magdalene College, Cambridge, 66; Sir Clifford Chetwood, chairman, Broadgate Properties, 68; Mr Keith Emerson, rock musician, 52; The Right Rev Philip Goodrich, Bishop Hamili, television reporter, 60; Dr Ronald Hedley, former Director, Natural History Museum, 68; Mr Natural History Museum, 68; Mr Paul Johnson, author and editor, 68; Mr Alan Jones, grand prix driver, 50; Mr David Leu, assistant General Sec-retary, TUC, 59; Sir Bruce Martin QC, former chairman, North West-ern Regional Health Authority, 58; Miss Juliet Mills, actress, 55; Dame Pauline Neville-Jones, Political Di-rector and Demny Under, Secretary rector and Deputy Under-Secretary uf State. Foreign and Common-wealth Office, 57: Sir Peter Newsam, former Director. London Institute of Education, 68; Sir Ronald Oxburgh. Rector, Imperial College of Science, Technulogy and Medicine, 62: Pro-fessor Norman Pye, geographer, 83: Mr Ivor Roberts-Jones, sculptor, 83; Mr Ken Rosewall, tennis player, 62: Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, former chairman of Sainsbury's, 69; Mr Bruce Welch, rock

musician, 55. TOMORROW: Mr Adam Ant, rock inger. 42: Mr Kenneth Baker MP former government minister, 62; Mr John Barry, popular musician and composer, 63: Mr John Billen MP. Charles Bronson, actor, 74; Mr Nicholas Budgen MP, 59; The Earl of Calthness, former Minister of State, Transport, 48; Mr Francis Cook MP, 61; Sir Kenneth Corley. former chief executive. Joseph Lucas, 88: Miss Violetta Elvin, former

prima ballerina, 71; Mr Roy Emer-

son, tennis player, 60; Mrs Jean Floud, former Principal of Newnham College, Cambridge, 8t; Mr Michael Gallemore, former editor Gallemore, former editor, *Sporting* Life, 52; Sir Philip Goodhart, former MP, 71; Mr John Heppell MP, 48; Mr Larry Holmes, heavyweight boxing champion, 47; Sir Ludovic Kennedy, writer and broadcaster, 77: Sir Christopher Leaver, wine merchant, and former Lord Mayor of London, 59; Viscount Linley, furniture de signer, 35; Lulu (Marie Lawrie), singer, 48; Maj-Gen Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, banker, 81; Mr Kenneth Morgon, former trade union leader, 68; Mr Conor Cruise O'Brien, editor, author and politician, 79; The Hon Michael Pakenham, inc Fron Michael Patennam, diplomat, 53; Sir Timothy Raison, for-mer MP and government minister, 67; Mr Albert Reynolds, former Irish prime minister (Taoiseach), 63: Mr Nick Simper, rock musicia 50; Mr Vanni Treves, senior partner, Macfarlanes, and chairman, BBA Group, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir John Webster, former Flag Officer, Ply-mouth, 64; Mr Martin Williams, High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, 55; Mr Ian Wright, footballer, 33.

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: Daniel Boone, froniersman, 1734; Marie Antoinene, Queen of King Louis XVI of France, 1755; The Aga Khan III, 1877; Burt Lancaster | Burton Stephen Lan-caster), actor, 1913. Deaths: Richard Hooker, theologian, 1600; Jenny Lind (Johanna Maria), soprano, 1587; George Bernard Shaw, playwright, 1950; James Grover Thurber, bumorous writer and cartoonist, 1961. On this day: the Daily Mirror was first published, as a daily newspaper for women, 1903; the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express, 1924; Haile Selassic was crowned as Empernr of Ethiopia, 1930: Penguin was acquitted of obscenity in publishing the book Lady Chatterley's Lover, 1960; Channel 4 television was started, 1982. Today is the Feast Day of All Souls, St Marcian of Cyrrbus and St Victorinus of Pettau.

TOMORROW: Births: Lucan, Roman poet, 39; Karl Baedeker, guidebook publisher, 1801; André-Georges Malraux, writer and politi-ciau, 1901. Deaths: Constantius II. Roman emperor of the East, 361; Annie Oakley (Phoebe Anne Oakley Mozee (Moses)), entertainer and markswoman, 1926; Henri-Emile Benoît Matisse, painter, 1954. On this day: the Act of Supremacy was passed, making the king head of the English Church, 1534; Laika, the Russian space dog, was sent into space in Sputnik II, 1957. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Amicus, St Hnbert, St Malachy of Armagh, St Martin de Porres, St Pirminus, St

Lectures TODAY

National Gallery: Lynda Stephens, "Remembering (i): Costa and Maineri. The Virgin and Child En-throned (La Pala Strazzi)", 12pm. Victoria and Albert Maseum: Paul hibition", 2.30pm.

Thte Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "At

Home and Abroad: Gainsbor and Richard Wilson", 1pm. British Museum: Paul Collins, "The Royal City of Susa", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: Peter Davies, "John Bratby in Context"

TOMORROW

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Grand Tour Gains: the rewards of 18th-century travel in Italy", 2.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: Susan Morris, "The Children of Charles I".

Drinking deep from a common well

Every thoughtful citizen, whether Communist or Conservative or Communitarian, ought to be grateful. The Catholic bishops' document, The Common Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching, is lucid, principled, nuanced and courte-ous. The hishops are inviting us to think, slowly, with care and detachment, about practical policies and the principles that underlie them.

They are also offering us a language with which to think. "The common good" is no slick New Labour slogan. It has been fundamental to serious discussion since Aristotle. While his pupil Alexander the Great was busy absorbing free city-states into a vast empire that stretched to the edges of India, Aristotle was writing this: "Constitutions that aim at the common benefit are correct, according with what is strictly speaking just" (Pol III.6). The common good is the good we share by being part of a community. We may differ drastically about how to achieve it; hut what else could sensibly be the focus of

debate about how to live together?

The common good is the flourishing of our community, which allows us as mem-bers to flourish within that community. It embraces specific goods: material needs, personal freedoms, education, a just and peaceful order. Christians believe that it is underpinned by a greater and ultimate common good, the shared life with God that we are finally promised. For we were made to be happy when we live socially, when we care for one another, when we share our goals, our activities, and our goods.

So fundamental is the notion of common good that some discussions become almost meaningless without it. Take the environmental debate. Water, earth, air, faith oreason What exactly is the common

good and how can it be achieved? Dr Margaret Atkins of Trinity and All Saints College, Leeds recommends streams of community spirit and sharing

fauna and flora, the basics of our survival, make no sense as private property: for they function as systems. If I destroy "my" rainforest, "your" weather is damaged; if I pollute "my" spring, you will be poisoned. Hence "the environment is one of the 'common goods' which are the shared responsibility of the human race".

Thomas Aquinas, the favourite Catholic theologian, would have been more radical even than the bishops. To him, all private property seemed problematic. How could we own anything? Surely everything created belongs to God. Against appealed to Genesis to argue that God has allowed us a limited control over the earth to support human life. But even so, how can we own anything privately?

Aquinas's response is pragmatic: private ownership is often more responsible and more competent, and tends to make for peace. But it is allowable only insofar as it works towards its proper end, which is for the sake of common use. Not for personal gain, not for security, not for status, hut to serve the common use.

Even Yorkshire Water have just circulated a letter which could have been based on Aquinas's principles. Not a word about profit. Instead, an account of the many measures they have taken to preserve the common water supply, in both our homes and our rivers. But we could make their job still easier by defining them not as a business primarily designed to make money, but precisely as a public ser-vant, delegated to serve the common good. For private companies, if they have no natural ties with the community, are constantly tempted to care only for the appearance, not the reality, of public service. Why should they do anything else, when we ourselves tell them that their goal is profit? "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters" (Isaiah 55.1).

Aristotle confined citizenship to the privileged few. Contemporary democrainsists that all are citizens. The Catholic ishops have reminded us that "all" must include the poor and marginalised, those most likely to be forgotten by the powers

Perhaps the most striking image of our private attempts to appropriate a common resource is the uniquitous bottle of mineral water. Expensive, throwaway, energysquandering - yet so rapidly has it become essential to everyday life. And when we, the affluent and influential, draw our water only from favoured and distant streams, what then? Who will care enough to protect the purity of our common supply, the water on which our poor depend? A society's attitude to water is deeply revealing: for water is both the substance and the symbol of life: "Those who are thirsty shall drink - it is my free gift - out of the spring whose water is life" (Revelation 21.6).

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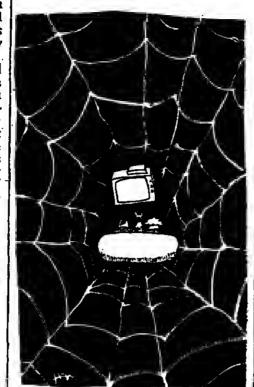
There is a way to stop Murdoch's TV takeover

Bayes's profits are up. This week, amid dawning realisation of the size of his digital TV coup, Rupert Murdocb treats us to a demonstration of his satellite power by cancelling the launch of the Warner Channel. He is indeed a phenomenon. But make no mistake, this is no unstoppable force of nature. Murdoch does, technologically speaking, bestride the narrow world but as the man said about Caesar, the fault that we are underlings lies not in the Sky but in ourselves ... or rather, in the pusillanimity of a political class so in thrall to his newspapers that is refuses to subject him to the rigours of fair

competition. Rupert Murdoch's editorial fan club puts it about that he is a great entrepreneur. He is, but over the years his biggest enterprise has been the manipulation of regulatory regimes established by governments. The man lives and dies by his capacity to swim in media markets characterised by rapid technological change, high up-front costs and a natural tendency towards monopoly. It is not usually economics which explains how they work, but politics. Like most businessmen he prefers less competition to more, which is why owning politically influential newspapers is always a sound investment. On digital television he has played a suave game, operating by stealth to secure a legislative outcome (the 1996 Broadcasting Act) which suits him to a tee. Murdoch is now poised to comer the market in direct satellite broadcasting to bouseholds. All the cant (and his editors are great suppliers of cant) won't conceal his yen for monopoly

His track record - here, in the United States, in Australia, in East Asia - is evidence enough of his project. He is not going to let up. It is therefore up to the authors of regulation to see what his game is and tighten the rules accordingly - not to bamstring Rupert Murdoch as a player but to ensure that he faces maximum competition on as level as field as can be rolled. Instead of that, our political class bas either actively encouraged him or dithered - or gone on pilgrimage to

Mr Murdoch's acolytes like to pretend that criticism of their man is a product of smallminded envy, an exhibition of the British penchant for bringing down greatness. They apparently cannot see the difference between admiration of energy and imagination (and Mr Murdoch has those in abundance) and alarm at his naked grasping after control in arenas where the very stuff of democracy is at stake - as it is in matters of news and information. They argue that Mr Murdoch's power is market-borne; that he should not be censured because so few have risen to take him on. But crediting his perseverance (and the accuracy of his persistent refusal to over-



estimate public taste) does not diminish the urgency of stopping him from cutting or eliminating the competition.

The issue at hand is control of digitised lele-vision signals from satellites. What's the problem, some ask, arguing that technology changes so fast that it dissolves monopoly: we should take the Internet as a model of how popular choice and technology combine for the general benefit. Yet the recent history of information technology also shows how the front man (Bill Gates is the name) scoops the pool. Once an interface is established as the industry standard, breaking into the same market becomes well-nigh impossible.

The Broadcasting Act 1996 is allowing Mr Murdoch first tilt at building and selling the control mechanism for digital television. What he has just done to Warner is a ready sign of how he will use that control. The object of policy must be to establish conditions in which household choice is maximised. We need to ask whether Murdocb as a programme producer should even be allowed to develop and manufacture the means by which programmes are delivered. The history of telecommunications regulation in Britain and of the development of competition law in information technology in the US offer plenty of precedents: it would be healthier all round if Murdoch were kept out of the market for gateway technologies. Alternatively he could be forced - as Microsoft have been to franchise the gateway technology to numufacturers of set-top control boxes, which could preserve the space needed for other broadcasters.

What is needed - the Department of Trade and Industry has yet to grasp this - is common-carrier status for the circuitry delivering digital signals to the home television set. into which the programme producers' filters and smart cards can call it.

Murdoch is shortly to sign contracts for the supply of set-top boxes matching his specification. Any government action that affects those contracts will, necessarily, be retrospective and so might raise the question of compensation. Far better, however, to pay Murdoch that rent now than to crimp and distort the use of this technology for decades. There has long been a need for some brace politician to think of emulating Stanley Baldwin and make the power of Murdoch and the other press barons a populist issue. That is something for another day. Today's priority is to acknowledge that public policy for digital broadcasting has a hig hole in it, but that there are ways to fill it.

This newspaper is a competitor with Murdoch titles; we have an axe to grind. It policy-makers refuse to wake up, it is, dear readers, over to you. The luture of your television choice is now at stake.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Rationing health care: politicians should not be afraid to let the people decide

Sir: Your article on the future of the NHS (30 October) ended with the difficult issue of rationing health care, but failed to consider the potential for public involvement.

There are many mechanisms for consulting the public. I have been running one such scheme for over three years for Somerset Health Authority and it has shown that members of the public can make a valuable contribution. They readily understand that a health authority has a limited budget and priorities must be set. If the consultation system is well designed, they act responsibly, bring their own experiences to the discussion and make sensible judgements about the relative merits of different ways of spending the limited cash available.

You suggest that politicians are trying to avoid the whole rationing issue because they fear the electoral consequences. You are almost certainly correct. The obvious response is to inject a truly democratic element into our arrangements by encouraging direct public involvement. Dr ANN RICHARDSON London NW3

Sir: Labour's hands will not be tied, as Jack O'Sullivan suggests ("Is the NHS safe under Dr Blair's team?", 30 October), if it refuses to pledge new funds for the National Health Money cannot solve the current

problems of the NHS, which are largely a consequence of the Conservative government's illjudged efforts to turn it into a giant supermarket. These "reforms" fragmented the service, increased transaction costs, dealt a terrible blow to staff morale and undermined public confidence. The Institute for Public Policy

Research report "New Agenda for Health" shows how much can be done without spending new money. It includes detailed proposals on how to abolish the internal market, how to make strides towards improving health, not just curing illness, how to establish an equitable basis for rationing how to tackle the democratic deficit and how to position the NHS to take advantage of technological change in the next decade. We also argue that if more public

money were available, it would be better spent on education, jobs, housing and other such measures which really do help to improve the health of the nation as a whole. ANNA COOTE Deputy Director, IPPR

Sir: Since the health service reforms there has been a complete lack of central strategic planning, the philosophy being to allow NHS trusts to battle it out in a market-forces

If the public do not want to pay more for their health service, then a severe rationalisation of the number of specialists within bospitals and of hospitals within regions has to take place. But it must be properly managed, otherwise patients suffer and staff become demoralised.

If on the other hand tax-payers do want more spent, rather than seeing hospitals closed down, then the politicians have a responsibility to do this. Of course, cost effectiveness and efficiency must be part of the bargain, and the secrecy that has

surrounded both purchasers and providers since the internal market began should be stopped. It should be remembered, however, that overall the NHS still delivers the least expensive quality services amongst the developed nations.

When Jack O'Sullivan suggests we may need fewer doctors, the comparison with the USA is misleading. The UK has 61 per cent fewer doctors per 1,000 population than the USA already, so the latter can afford to reduce their doctors by 25per cent and still have more than we have. France, with the same population as ourselves, has twice as many doctors and 65 per cent more beds (OECD Health Data). PETER M BROWN FRCS Clinical Director, Head & Neck

Milson Keynes General NHS Trust

Sir: Jack O'Sullivan argues that with regard to the NHS, "Labour is as short as ever on fresh ideas". If only it were to look to its roots, Labour could maintain and improve the best elements of the Government's reforms, and find a means of improving health care without tax

There are two options. One is to increase the funding of the NHS.
This will simply not be possible beyond what John Major has already pledged since it will require tax

The other option is to do it outside the NHS through individuals, either off their own backs or through cooperative schemes, devoting a greater share of their income net of tax to private health care. Labour's problem is that it still at heart regards this as somehow morally flawed, and is thus blinded to the possibilities available for NHS-private sector co-operation.

Labour's attitude is hizarre since its 19th-century roots lie in the very sociedes and mutuals in which most non-state health care originated. STEPHEN POLLARD Head of Research Social Market Foundation London SWI

LETTER from THE EDITOR

c need some more enemics, 1 am now V approaching this editing business in a scientific spiril and my researches suggest that newspapers are defined as much by their natural enemies as anything else. Thus, The Daily Mail hates liberals, Channel 4. shifty foreigners; The Telegraph hates Irish republi-cans, European federalists and people who bave had abor-tions; The Sun hates certain football managers (I can never remember which ones), women with their clotbes on ...

we are primly promiscuous in our disapproval. Our political and commercial foes are legion, from Tory nationalists to Rupert Murdoch. But we are, it must be confessed, a little short of proper, bloodsummoning, sinew-stiffening enemies. Paul Johnson won't do; hating him is over-fash-ionable. Michael Howard would be a popular choice among readers; but he would be far more worried if The Independent didn't consider him an enemy: give him a favourable mention and it would do him such damage with the right that he'd proba-bly sue. The same is true of many other obvious targets.

What about picking some wider group to demonise, then? Who could we treat as our version of single mothers? Utility chairmen? Purveyors of combat knives? Cult leaders? The designers of Legoland? Men who wear moustaches? You see the problem - n's all too pointlessly easy. And in some of these cases, the spasm to be fair ruins what would otherwise have been a promising cam-paign. In an editorial the other day we took a savage pop at media studies, the sociology of the Nineries, and thus at professors of media studies. No good either; they only smiled knowingly and ... analysed us back. I think the only answer is to seize randomly upon some previously innocuous-seeming group and attack them relentlessly until circulation soars. But since this is purely a com-mercial, branding exercise, it must be a unique enemy some group no one has yet

found an excuse to attack.

Canadians? Manicurists? The

people of Chelmsford, with

their goatish Justs and dark philosophies? All suggestions gratefully received.

I only took this job in order to be glamorous. I thought I'd go to all these swanky parties and exciting receptions, arriving late and smoking with the latest news, before dropping a few tinkling epigrams and caus-ing famous authors to choke with admiration. No go. Apparently, the job of newspaper editors is to edit newspapers - they never made that clear at the time - and this the evening.

This has been a typical week.

What about picking some wider group to demonise? Utility chairmen? Cult leaders? Men who wear moustaches? You see the problem

- it's all too easy

I was invited to the faunch of Andrew Neil's book, arrived just too late and was refused a drink. Then there was an incredibly glitzy tunisc Affair affair - Tina Brown, Harold Evans, Michael Jagger, Salman Fry, Stephen Rushdie, etc. etc.

Too bad: stuck in traffic. Never mind, 1 did finally make it to lunch with Granta magazine, however, which is glamorous in a literary sense. A long taxi-ride prepared me for a grand entrance: the restaurant doors swing open: t had an epigram ready to spit ... but there had been a mix-up and there was nobody there.

Finally, a word from James Gilmour, who writes spiritedly from Kitmarnock, strongly attacking this paper's "tencesitting attitude to party poli-ties: "The British newspaperbuying public really don't appreciate fairness what they like is pure unashamed prejudice." Mr Gilmour, I think you may be right. Chelmsford had better watch out.

Andres: Marr

Moral education or indoctrination?

Sir: Politicians want morality to be taught, but you consider the attempt absurd (leading article, 28 October)

If by "teaching morality" we mean getting children to obey a set of rules, then it is not absurd to attempt this. It is called indoctrination, and many pedagogic, psychological and sociological devices and to do this have been used over generations, often achieving a high success rate.

If by "teaching morality" we mean a process in which we give children and young people an understanding of the fundamental moral perspectives in our society and give them practice in making their own well-informed judgements, then, again, it can be done. Indeed, there are educational programmes in schools, colleges and universities in the UK doing just that. In the University of Glamorgan undergraduates in many disciplines and professions, including nurses and police officers, take such courses.

It is not absurd to set out to "teach morality" but we have to be clear what we mean by it, and what we RICHARD ROWSON Principal Lecturer in Moral Philosophy and Professional Ethics, University of Glamorgan London SW3

Sir: The present concern with moral regeneration raises several issues for us who teach in thal area. As educators we are already working to produce critical thinking. This is perceived in some quarters as a challenge to morality: in fact it is only a challenge to an authoritarian view of morality. An authoritarian or rulebased morality is not the only legitimate moral approach.

Moreover, it is not the case that teachers have somehow conspired to maintain a moral relativism or moral vacuum from which only others can

There are many schools which maintain a proper and sensible balance in educating children in both critical thinking and moral values. These are not topics which may be taught, but skills which must be developed. We cannot agree that there is a body of knowledge called "morality" which can be taught. In the case of this school, a Philosophy for Children programme is being successfully implemented in which moral awareness and critical thinking are developed through being practised and enjoyed. To see a group of 11-year-old boys and girls engaged in moral and ethical debate is an experience which those who see schools as moral wastelands would do well to enjoy. BERNARD TRAFFORD DAVID BARLOW PETER WHALE Theology and Philosophy Department Wolverhampton Grammar School

Sir: On 31 October 1987 Woman's Own printed the statement by Baroness Thatcher that "there is no such thing as society". On 31 October 1996 you printed part of the proposed "code of values" on which the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority is consulting. It declares that "we value families ... as the basis of a society in which people care for others". Have the Conservatives recreated society in exactly nine years? ERIC THOMPSON London NW2



rish hero? Liam Neeson (centre) portrays a man "willing to compromise with British imperialism"

Collins myth bent to because it shows car bombs before serve peace process

Sir: I agree with Ronan Bennett when he says that conservative British commentators are not really worried about the historical accuracy, or otherwise, of Neil Jordan's epic Michael Collins "Hidden agenda", October 31). What they really find objectionable is that Jordan has dared to depict British rule in Ireland in a bad light.

But as someone who comes from the opposite end of the political scale I am worried about the historical accuracy of Jordan's film. Not

there were car bombs or because it does not fully investigate the Unionist perspective in early 20thcentury Ireland, but because the film seeks to rewrite what it means to be

an Irish nationalist.
The hero of Michael Collins is Michael Collins and the villain is Eamon de Valera. Collins is the hero because he is pragmatic and realistic and willing to compromise with British imperialism. De Valera is the villain, because he sticks to his guns. refuses to budge and will settle for nothing less than a complete British withdrawal from Ireland. In the past that would have made de Valera the

On the one hand we have those

those who imply, as in "A capital

rescuing.
With all the attention lavished

upon the capital, it is small wonder

that London is somehow in need of

who are currently trying to

convince us that London is

hero and Collins the traitor. But Jordan has rewritten Irish history so that ditching your principles in the name of reconciliation is interpreted as the authentic expression of true

Irish nationalism.
In short, Jordan's film is infused with the values of today's peace process. In Ireland today it is those who are prepared to compromise their principles in the name of peace and reconciliation who are held in high esteem, while those who stick to their guns are cast as the villains. Jordan has projected this value system into the past. BRENDAN O'NEILL Edgware, Middlesex

Labour has fought Murdoch stranglehold on digital TV

Sir: Polly Toynbee (28 October) continues to assert that Labour has acquiesced in allowing Rupert Murdoch to develop a monopoly position over future digital television services. As the Opposition spokespersons who took the recent Broadcasting Bill through all its House of Commons stages we continually raised both the issue of conditional access and the need to ensure that there was compatibility between digital television systems.

On the penultimate day of the Bill's proceedings we finally accepted a reassurance from the DTI minister Ian Taylor MP that a new government clause to the Bill when combined with the relevant

regulations would "ensure the greatest practicable mutual technical compatibility of digital television services across all three delivery mechanisms - terrestrial, satellite

and cable". It is now up to the Government to ensure that those regulations provide the necessary powers to Oftel and the Independent Television Commission to ensure that this compatibility exists. Should there be any doubt about the adequacy of the Government's proposals we will ensure that they are Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (Fact 0171-293 2856; e-mail: letters@independent.co.nk) and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge anyablished letters.

debated and voted on in Parliament. If BSkyB sign contracts for decoder boxes before the regulations have been finalised they must risk the regulators declaring that they cannot

be used. Dr LEWIS MOONIE MP (Kirkaldy, Lab) Opposition spokesperson on broadcasting GEOFF HOON MP. (Ashfield, Lab) Opposition spokesperson on trude and industry House of Commons, London SWI

Barcelona has lessons for the rest of us too

Sir: London is a marvellous capital that Londoners are perceived as which every Briton should be proud of, and yet Londoners cannot agree arrogant and self-obsessed and the capital consequently despised by on what sort of state it's actually in. many across the nation.

Covenus

Just how good does London have to be to satisfy its spoilt inhabitants? There is no reason why Birmingham, enjoying a renaissance in culture and fashion, while on the other are Sheffield, Leicester and other cities attempting to transform themselves cannot also learn from Barcelona's vision - from Spain" (29 October), rejuvenation.

The focus on London's "plight" amounts to a tacit disregard of cities far more in need of such attention. The implication is that we can all go to pot just as long as London twinkles and shines. **ROKOS FRANGOS**

QUOTE UNQUOTE

I certainly have never been against corporal punishment in schools. I have always regarded it as a very useful deterrent – Gillian Shephard, Education Secretary.

There is still another 9lh to go and time is running out. If all else fails, I shall bave to consider amputation - Michael Mates. Ton MP, who is nearing the deadline of a competitive sharming

Nelson would not have commanded even a rowing boat it judged by the politically correct standards of today - Michael Stephen. Tory MP, discussing the Wrens at sea controversy.

He's a national hero and a role model for youngsters and if it is true that Gazza beat up his wife, then sending him to represent England overseas can only give the impression that wife-beating is acceptable in the UK - Sandra Harley, of the women's rights group Refuge, on footballer Paul Gascoigne.

Having spent the last 10 years in the filthiest business in the universe, it's a pleasure to announce the end of the Stone Roses the singer lan Brown reporting the demise of the Manchester-bases.



An artist cast into controversy

Rachel Whiteread stirs up strong passions: her 'House' sculpture won plaudits from the critics and brickbats from the locals. Now her plans for a Holocaust memorial in Vienna have aroused opposition. She talks to **Peter Popham**

achel Whiteread, the sculptor who famous three years ago wheo she made a coocrete cast of a London ter-raced house, titling it *House*, has dooe it again; dwarfed the efforts of her peers by the force of sheer controversy.

It's another concrete cast, another community, another city, another set of representatives and hureaucrats; but once agaio Whiteread's work has been catapulted out of the realm of the artistic ioto the

bear pit of politics.

The place is a square in ceotral Vienna named Judenplatz, "Jews' Square", so called because it is the location of the city's historic ghetto, and the site of a notorious 15th century pogrom. Now the veteran Nazi hunter, 87-year-old Simoo Wiesenthal, a loog-term resident of Vienna himself, has persuaded the city to devote the centre of the square to a Holocaust memorial. Determined to learn from the mistakes of Berlin, where another Holocaust memorial project has been snared in cooteotion and bad feeling for years, the committee appointed to see the project through speedily drew up a shortlist of 10 artists and chitects. From this list Whiteread, whose work is now to be found in museums all over

the world, was chosen. Like all Whiteread's work, tural Association.

For the modern

one of the houses overlooking the square, and with its walls scored by the impress of thousands of identical books. At one end is the impress of large doo-hle doors. Around the base are simple, hrief legends, listing concentration camps, and the ournher (65,000) of Austrian Jews killed by the Nazis.

It is, in other words, to judge from the model, an extremely low-key, well-mannered, unob-trusive sort of object, which will oone the less (it is hoped) have the same sort of uncanny quality that gave House such a strange and powerful resonance.

Like House, however, but in this case before anything bas become visible, what Wieseodents of the square have got up a petition with 2,000 signatures to stop the mooument. The project has been beset by unaccountable postponemeots.

Meanwhile the city's Social Democrat mayor, an impor-tant backer of the mooument, has been seriously weakened by the result of October's general election, which gave an unprecedented boost to the nationalist right-wing Freedom The original completion date was 9 November, but in Vienna the deadline will unmarked. In London an exhibition about the project opens on Wednesday at the Architec-

the form of a cast, this time of troversy is a rare gift; like a book-lined library with a rose alchemy, it can turn dross, or ceiling. The form that results is concrete, into gold. It's a gift an ohlong block, with roughly Rachel Whiteread shares with the dimensions of a room in the only other young British

artist who compares with her in terms of world-wide recognition, Damien Hirst. The difference is that, while Hirst bas heeo looking to shock and offend ever since he discovered formaldehyde, Whiteread was unprepared for the storm that broke with the unveiling of

After all, she was merely continuing to do what she bad been doing for years in obscurity, but this time in a slightly different context. "As an undergraduate at Brighton in the painting department I was getting frustrated with making paintings, getting hored with the edges of canvasses," she remembers. "So I started to make almost three-dimensional paintings that led into very simple casting. Then the artist Richard Wilsoo came to Brighton and did a metal cast-

ing workshop and I just thought it was amazing that you could press a spoon into sand and pour molten metal in and then you had a spoon but the spoonness of the spoon had gone. It completely intrigued me that you could do this very simple process and completely change your perception of an object.

The first piece of sculpture I made was after I left the Slade - it was a cast of the inside of a wardrobe which was theo covered in black felt. It was in 1987-88, and that's when

things started to happen." Whiteread had found her path. For most ordinary mortals, it was no more or less mystifying than the other obsessive activities that take a grip oo modern artists and won't let go - the bricks, the wrapping of buildings, the formaldehyde. whiteread cast mattresses, bot to another, and culminated in

water bottles, baths, the spaces under tables and chairs; she cast floors and shelves and mortuary slabs. Her amhitions grew bigger, but the highly specialised,

deeply eccentric nature of her activity remained the same. Now she set about casting an entire room. Imagine the labour involved and Whiteread bas always been (and remains) dedicated to the artisanal task. A friend remembers ber in those days, before

her fame, wrapping up warm in the dead of winter and hicycling off the house in Archway, north Loodon, where she was doing it

The room eventually woo the Turner Prize in 1993, but she couldn't stop there, however like the old woman who

House. With the support of James Lingwood of the avant garde commissioning group Artangel, she scoured London for a suitable house. Finally the terrace in Bow, east London, bove into view. "I'd cycled past that row of houses for years on my way to the studio," she says.

it here." Three weeks later all the houses had been destroyed apart from the middle ooe, where an extraordinary man called Mr Gale was holding out. It was even more perfect."

Finally Mr Gale got his house round the coroer, and Whiteread and her team set to work. "We made it completely under wraps, kept it really really quiet, until the day before we took down the walls to expose it, and then it was there and all hell broke loose ... l

bit controversial - and of course it was incredibly controversial.

It's still slightly mysterious why. Various different types of rage and excitement smashed together over House - the Carl Andre's pile-of-bricks philis-tine factor, local disgust at "wasted money", local political fury at having what was called "this monstrosity" dumped in beautiful Bow – all in the glare of intense media interest. The result was the art world's equivaleot of a nuclear explosioo.

In its intense simplicity and peculiarity, *House* also proved irresistible to the critics, who three years later are still cranking out dissertations and monographs about this long-vanished object.
In a commemorative book

on the project, for example, entitled *House* (published by Phaidon). Antony Vidler rehearses just a few of the intellectual acrobatics the work has provoked: how *House* is seen to have transformed a realist house into an abstract composition, how people felt that House "mutilated ... the archetypal space of homeli-oess," how its blank windows evoked associations with the

evil eye.

But Whiteread, who does not eojoy talking about her work for public consumption, is dubious about most of her critics' efforts. "I'm 33 years old, I've made a relatively small body of work, but there's volumes and volumes and volumes of stuff that's been written. I think, well, if you're going to do that you do that, but for me its beside the point, what I'm inter-

ested in is making work."

What is not beside the point for her - a petite figure with broad-set pale blue eyes, whispy auburn hair and remarkably hroad shoulders - is getting to grips with the work: precisely what she is not able to do with the project in Vienna. And It's

driving her mad.

I feel very removed from it now. I hate the media and I hate doing interviews. But I know because of Vienna and what's happening in Vienna I have to actually speak out now about the situation over there especially because the thing's supposed to open in a week's time and everyone's going to wonder why it hasn't done. So I feel its important now that I have a little bit of a voice-I feel blame me personally for its not heing there yet.

"Its very difficult to tell how vulnerable the project is - I've been told under no circumstances will it oot happen but I don't know how to take that. I've got a scrapbook, and this has become my only way of working with the piece now. I just want to be over there physically making it, but I can't. House was the most gruelling experience I've ever been through, but Vienna is rapidly remember thinking before it catching up."



jo brand's wee

i am sure I am not alone among performers in being rather pleased about Jack Dee's attack on the critic Victor Lewis-Smith. I am not a fan of violent behaviour, but if anyooe deserves a slap it is Mr L-S. Reasonably clever and fairly agile with words he may be, but his vitriolic personal attacks on people descend to a level which, if directed at someone in a puh, would ensure swift retribution in the fist department. Perhaps his most beingus crime is that he himself has written and been in a comedy series, the appallingness of which has never been and never will be witnessed on televisioo agaio, ooe hopes. In my book, this doesn't give him a leg to stand on. Still, I hope this attack doesn't discourage Mr L-S from going out. There are hundreds more people who wouldn't mind having a crack at him.

Theme parks are springing up like rashes all over the world. The latest one will be built just outside Athens and named Mythos Park, which gives you a vague cine as to the theme that it will be following. Yes, the Greeks are going Ancient Greek with a park full of Greek gods. I suppose it's a vague improvement on Disneyland and Greek scholars appear to be behind it as a stepping-stone on to further learning. An Oxford professor remarked that children "start with stories or a visit to a play like this and then they go on to read Homer". I can't see it myself. I don't know many kids that went to Astérix Park in France and then wanted to read Caesar's Gallic Wars.

not feel safe to go out at night could at least vecture out during the day without fear of being attacked, because there were always plenty of people around. It seems even the refuge of daylight and crowds is disappearing, as evidenced by the incideot in Birmingham recently in which a schoolgirl was dragged screaming into a car by three men in full view of lots of people, none of whom lifted a finger. I have to say, had I been there I would have felt obliged to do something. Who are all these people who ignore things like this and what is the matter with them? Many apologists for the oon-actioo argument seem to think that it's fear for their own safety, but I'm afraid. often, it's a more pathetic reason than that. I think lots of people are scared of looking stupid in front of others in case they've read the situation wrong. Human beings are strange creatures. Someone coughs oo a train and everyooe looks at them like they've just committed a murder. We can't seem to bear to stand out from the crowd. Well, I'm afraid we have to, because if we don't, the sort of hlokes who hundled this schoolgirl into a car and raped her for 12 hours will carry on without any fear of apprehension.

Once upon a time, women who did

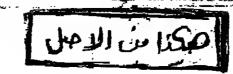
"They're all loaded." "They've got really nice houses in the suburbs." How many times have we all heard comments like this about beggars or Big Issue sellers? Almost as often as the scummy old Sun has attempted to deny the legacy of Thatcher's Britain by trying to tell us that anyone we

think is poor or desperate is in fact having a great life and taking the piss out of hard-working people into the bargain. Obviously it's easier for those Sun readers with consciences (a contradiction in terms, I grant you) to salve them by believing this sort of cack, rather than facing up to the fact that the rag they read/look at played a very big part in creating this rotten, yobbish, paranoid and selfish culture we have ended up with. As far as I'm concerned, any poor bugger who has the bottle to stand out on the street and face the "great" British public every day, deserves a fortune.

I'm on tour at the moment, and after receiving a couple of letters from Hope House in Oswestry, a respite hospice for children, l dropped in to see them and say hello. l must admit l was a hit anxious, as l had never visited a place like this before and was worried that the atmosphere would be oppressive and sad. However, I found a delightful place full of warm and humorous staff

who were obviously good at their jobs and doing their best for a group of children with very different problems, a place you would think the health anthority might be proud of. But Hope House is funded entirely by charity, despite the fact that the health authority pokes its nose in on a regular basis and uses the facility wheo it ceeds help. This great place, struggling to meet the hill of more than a millioo pounds a year with charitable donations, is just another example of the way in which this government has cut health care to the hone and evaded its responsibilities. Still, I suppose it leaves some dosh over for performance-related boouses for managers in the health service.

On tour, one gets to sit in a strange selection of hotel bars, and sometimes we play "Guess what the group at the other table do for a living". Sitting in a country hotel in Wales the other night and catching snatches of conversation from another table, we decided it was possible they were coppers of some kind. At one point the most senior member of the group, age-wise, got up from the table, walked towards the door, turned back to his group and said in a voice loud enough for us to hear, "Where are the shooters?" Suddenly we were all transported back to the Seventies and felt like extras in The Sweeney. Now, it's possible they were winding us up, but there was absolutely no evidence of it. I'll let you know if we see them driving through some cardboard boxes, or hear them shouting "You're going dahn!" at breakfast.



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or many moons a cuddly, bibulous rightwinger called Digby Anderson has been trying to reintroduce shame into our shameless society. Once every year, as regularly as the first cuckoo of summer, the director of the Social Affairs Unit (I am not sure that the unit has any other officers) writes an article in a middleranging tabloid arguing for stigma and ostracism to become weapons once more in the battle against social disintegration. But apart from the leader writer of the Daily Mail, few have been prepared to support Digby's crusade. Dr Anderson's lack of

success may have something to do with the nature of his targets. Homosexuals and illegitimate children are odd choices, given the murderous activities of many heterosexuals and boys born safely within the bounds of wedlock. There is nothing wrong with poofs and bastards, as long as they behave themselves.

So we must give a cautious welcome to Mrs Margaret Mervis, Tory chair of the London borough of Wandsworth's Housing Committee, who this week published a list of the names of anti-social council tenants, guilty of such crimes as allowing their dogs to foul the public footpath. The list was sent out to be published in local newspapers and you can get hold of a copy yourself should you want to see if any friends or acquaintances are on it) hy applying directly to the Town Hall.

There will, of course, be the usual hleating by civil liberties groups about victimisation and human rights (though, typically, they remain silent about the human right to walk free from the fear of stepping in something unpleasant), and we can also expect - human nature being what it is - that some innocent tenants will appear on the list by mistake. But, as Mrs Mervis (who has also advocated identity cards for tenants and a municipal police force) rightly says, "It's no good talking tough about crime and anti-social behaviour if you are not prepared to back this up with

action." Quite so, Maggyl Let the villains tremble!

But before we get carried away by our admiration of the Magnificent Mervis, there are some harsh questions to be asked. The first is whether the simple publication of a name in a local, low circulation newspaper is enough. Is there not a significant danger that many chizens (who may not be readers of the local rag) will miss the list? What proportion of the offenders are likely to know what is in the papers anyway? It seems to me that this method is both too distant from the crime and the perpetrator, while --paradoxically - reaching too Let us take the example of

a yohbo pensioner who

repeatedly allows her Jack

Russell to defecate on the pavement. She may suffer from arthritis, or poor sight, and thus be most unwilling to do her duty in terms of scooping. It is going to take a pretty powerful incentive to get her to behave m a less antisocial way. But just imagine that she were forced to stand next to the offending pile for a full day, wearing a placard with the words "All My Own Work" - a photograph appearing in the paper, and pictures carried on the regional television news. Most pensioners I know would rather have their dogs put down immediately, than run the risk of such humiliation.

My second point is similarly

substantial: why limit this public shaming to council tenants? I am sure (as Mrs Mervis seems to imply) that such people are less lawabiding than the rest of us, otherwise why do they not own their own homes? But I know some pretty anti-social home-owners and private tenants too; they also fail to return library books, do not rewind rented video tapes, allow their hanging-baskets to die of thirst in August and park their Mercs on the pavement. Surely, for a shaming strategy to work and be effective it must be seen to apply to all, from the dregs of society to its cream. Remember the classless society, Margaret?

The man who built a bridge to the past

f anyone today can rightfully claim to be called "Mr Republi-Dole. He has spent his entire adult life in the grinding service of the Grand Old Party. His slow, uneven ascent consumed decades - rising up the political ladder rung by rung, from congressman to senator, from chairman of the Republican National Committee to failed vice presidential candi-date, from failed presidential hopeful (twice before his current effort) to Senate majority leader Everything Dole has, he has earned, including his impending defeat.

Dole's career has confirmed his grimly determined view of the world. Without his entourage of handlers and speechwriters to craft his image and language, Dole naturally reverts to the rhetoric of his harsh past, bitterly informed by his wartime wound (an injury which paralysed his right arm). Dole insists that the only way to get ahead is "the hard way" and that "pain" is the true path to understanding. His underlying message is the opposite of Ronald Reagan's, the avatar of pleasure and easy street. Dole's projection of Kansas is a world away from Reagan's political Disneyland. For Dole, life is nasty, brutish and agonisingly long. His presidential campaign, if nothing else, should once again confirm his bleak

In 1996 his message has been the one that he feels in the marrow of his bones and conveys with his whole being: it's his turn. Within the Republican Party, which is far more hierarchical and deferential than the Democratic Party, the notion that Dole has deserved the presidential nomination after so many years of hard labour carried some weight in the primaries. And virtually all of the party establishment sup-ported his effort. But once Dole actually had the coveted nomination in his hand, he lacked a larger message to communicate to the coontry

He had sought the prize for so long that the struggle to get it had almost completely taken him over. Dole's insistent belief in his own entitlement left him bereft at the moment of his triumph. He had little else to add. His quandary was that the party had finally bestowed its ultimate honour on him, but that the voters were unimpressed. "Mr Republican" was not an identity that held much attracnon for them.

"Til be Ronald Reagan if you want me to be," Dole implored at the start of the campaign. Unfortunately no one is more unlike Reagan than Dole. In fact, from the enactment of Reagan's supply-side tax cut, Senator Dole was among the leaders in trying to contain the of Republicanism. As far as he



Bob Dole's heart's desire was a presidential nomination. But when he finally got it, America found he could only look backwards, writes Sidney Blumenthal

countervailing tax increases. He made constant sardonic jokes about the foolishness of supply-side economics. His favourite was this: "There's good news and bad news. The good news is that a hus full of supply-side econo-mists just went off a cliff. The

had news is that there was an empty seat." Dole particularly ridiculed that champion of tax cuts, Congressman Jack Kemp, as having played football "with-out a helmet" and seeking a tax cut for "hair spray". Dole's deficit obsession reflected his agrarian sensibility, which he was certain was the real essence

explosion of the federal deficit was concerned, Reaganism was a perverse aberration, another oddity emanating from the freakish state of California.

Immediately after securing his nomination, Dole returned to the Senate, his true home, an insulating cocoon. He acted as though, having finally achieved his ultimate goal, he would be treated with the proper respect. After all, didn't he deserve the nomination? Wasn't it his turn? But Dole could not be both the Senate majority leader and the Republican presidential candi-date simultaneously. The more he was pushed to oppose the Democrats on popular mea-sures, the more his standing in the polls plunged.

character. First he resigned from the Senate. In his farewell address, he stifled his sobs as he spoke of becoming "just a man". Then he embraced the supply-side tax cut programme, in effect repudiating the single position he had consistently held over the years. Shortly after that, he named Jack Kemp, an object of his derision.

as his vice presidential running mate. He had given up most of his identity and was indeed "just a man", an exposed and vulncrable one.

In his convention speech. Dole was a candidate in search of a metaphor. Without a smile,

Dole began discarding the hc described himself as "the clements of his basic political most optimistic man in America". He offered himself as a "bridge" to the past, a better world that lay behind us, that only disbelievers called "myth". With that, Dole had handed President Clinton a hlunt weapon. At the Democratic convention, the President lambasted Dole for trying to lead the country hackward and

bridge to the 2lst century". In just one rhetorical trope, Clinton claimed control of the future, leaving Dole flashing as

vesterday's man. In the closing days of his political career. Dele inadvertently began assuming a new political identity: Republican Party scapegoar. All the failings of the party in 1996 are blamed by Republicans of every stripe on "Mr Republican". Every faction argues that if only he had pursued their line from the beginning, he would have wen, or at least finished respectably. The social conservatives and members of the religious right, the supply-siders and the party officials have all found; last use for Dole as the convenient excuse for losing. He is an icon of their denial.

All along, Dole's true model, his hero, has not been Ronald Reugan, but Richard Nixon. The two men had a tangled love-hate relationship, with each drawn magnetically to the other's darkness.

Before he died, Nixon wrote Dole a series of letters spelling out the strategy he ought to pursue. He advised Dole to move to the right to win the nomination and then shift back to the centre to win the presidency. One approach was aimed at the party, the other at the nation. It was the strategy that Nixon, who ahvays played each against all for his own benelit, had followed himself. His advice, in brief, was that to succeed Dole must be Nixon.

Dole tried to adhere to Nixon's plan, but the old balancing act in the middle could not be sustained. The problem for Dole was that the Republican Party had changed since Nixon's day. It had moved far more to the right. It was more Reagan's and Gingrich's party than Nixon's. Dole could not hold it together and pretend he was standing anywhere near an atrophied party centre. His march to the right continued up to election day.

In winning his heart's desire. his party's nomination. Dole shut himself out of the White House. Dole could not be Reagan and he could not be Nixon. The roles were not available: they had been removed to presidential libraries and museums. Shifting endlessly to satisfy a right wing that can never be truly satisfied, he could not even present himself convincingly as Bob Dole. Being "Mr Republican", as it happens, is a self-defeating proposition.

The writer is on the staff of 'The' promised instead to build "a New Yorker' magazine.

When Jon Snow told his family secrets

oys, there's something I think you ought to know about your nuother." As so often, my father was talking to the rear-view mir-ror of his beloved 1931 Hudson Terraplane Eight. His three sons at diving the state were arrayed on the back seat in adjust with the motching pale blue cable-stitch mother-knitted sweaters. She was sitting with her back to us in the front seat. There was a long pause as he negotiated the huge convertible round another Dorset bend too fast. "Your mother doesn't have her own hair," he said finally.

The silence that followed was eventually broken by my elder brother snootily announcing, "I knew that." But I didn't, and at eight years old I was utterly shattered. I simply couldn't begin to make sense of it. "Didn't you even know. Jobby?" My eldest brother, using the sneering nickname by which he got under my skin, clearly sensed my shock. "I've always known," he+ added. My younger brother, at six, was reticent about being seen to be as candid as my tears began to reveal me to be, or as cocky as his eldest brother now boasted.

Yes, darlings, I haven't had any hair since I was a girl," chimed my mother. "Your father was absolutely wonderful ever to marry me." So, I thought, this hairlessness had been a most terrible and unmentionable thing. And, curiously, right up until adult life it was to remain a most terrible and unmention-



Intimate revelations about mother-son relationships are the stuff that great feuds are made of, says Paul

Vallely

The author is the Channel 4 news-reader Jon Snow. And the row he has provoked in writing a memoir of his boyhood relationship with his mother has been of the peculiar intensity which only a family spat can conjure.

Mrs Snow, it seems, suffered from alopecia totalis. At the age of 13 she lost her hair in a night while waiting to sit a piano exam. And that was that "But for me it wasn't," Snow

recalls. "Very suddenly Mummy wasn't quite the same Mummy... I'd never for one moment wondered whether the hair on her head was real. I had taken it on absolute trust that it was. That it now wasn't, somehow undermined my entire confidence in who she was."

His elder hrother Tom apparently remains the snooty fellow of the back seat. Instead of upbraiding his younger sibling direct he wrote a letter to The Guardian announcing that he was "shocked" to see that Johby was hlaming their mother for his inability to form close relationships. "She is severely ill with Alzheimer's disease," he wrote. "She is therefore, quite literally, defenceless in the face of such ghastly public retribution."

She developed the dementia after their father, a former Bishop of Whitby, died in retirement. She now lives in a nursing home in Oxfordshire where she has no idea her son is a television celebrity. "It is a horrible disease because she is still physically your mum. She

sounds like her, hut you can't have a conversation with her," he said of his visits every three weeks in an interview several years ago. Yet there was always some-

thing curiously detached in their relationship, according to his essay in Sons and Mothers, which is to be published next week. While his brothers gravitated towards their father, who was a bishop and a do-it-yourself enthusiast, the boy Jon was drawn into his mother's orbit. His beautifully written lyrical account of those early years-in which he turned the pages of her piano music as the engage-ment ring on her long, slender fingers clicked on the ivory keys - is a haunting tale of a deep attraction that was somehow never resolved. His unsatisfied yearning for a closer relationship with the mother who called

him the daughter she never had is unbearably poignant. Physical closeness was what was lacking. "Nanny would wash our hair on Fridays and we would lie on towels in front of the fierce glowing elements of the old-fashioned gas fire in my mother's bedroom. These were the very rare occasions when we were allowed into her room. She would be there, too, sitting close by, sometimes assisting the drying with a towel. Beyond those treasured moments in front of the gas fire, I have no memory of any other

tactile life with her. I did not sit

on her lap, nor even run my fin-

gers through her hair, as my

charged with nothing. And yet I was conscious of being the

apple of her eye."
She found it hard to demonstrate emotionally. On his first day at Winchester choir school his mother left without saying goodbye, "In that instant the heart-broken, bereft hut independent new me was born," he writes. "The umhilical was finally broken." She had also left him with a "pathological fear" of close relationships with

women. When her Alzheimer's deteriorated five years ago, to the point where she had to be moved into full-time carc, he felt unable to take her into his own home. "Perhaps if our life together had prepared us and left us with a living friendship, I might have tried. But as it had not I was ruthless in my refusal to make sacrifices to care for her.'

Brother Tom has no sympathy with the emotional charge his famous brother loads on his recollections. "I cannot see how anything in his childhood can now justify the humiliation of our mother, whose memory of those times has been wiped out" he wrote. "It is simply piriless. Self-indulgence has gained the upper hand over decency."

Vehement disagreement seems of the essence in such matters. Sons and Mothers has been jointly edited by the critic Victoria Glendinning and her sportswriter son Matthew. They wrote pieces for the book children do mine. Kisses were about each other and man-

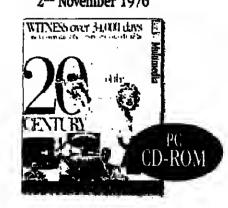
Matthew was horrified when his mother pushed the first draft of her contribution through his letterbox. "I thought, Why are you writing all this down and not saying it to me?" ... It was so negative." he says. It took a month to sort out the anger. The experience of editing with her had been "extremely weird", he says, and it has definitely changed their

Quite what will be the impact on the Snow brothers is unclear. "I probably sec my brothers only once or twice a year." Jon said in an interview published last year. "We are a pretty distant family. It's a great pity but you can't artificially engineer these things." Yet he apparently hopes that his brother won't find what he has written quite so abominable once he reads the whole book.

"It is not easy to tell the truth the truth, that is, as one sees it, for there is no such thing as a single, whole truth." wrote Victoria Glendinning vesterday in response to the Snow furore. "It is all subjective. That is the tragedy of family life. It is also the comedy and farce of family life." Which side of that coin eventually lands face-up for the Snow brothers remains to be seen. Perhaps they will decide it would be best to keep it in the family.

'Sons and Mothers', edited by Victoria and Matthew Glendinning, is published by Virago on





Chronicle of the 20th Century

comprehensive. informative and entertaining guide to the era ever produced

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Majority of advisers urge against tax cuts

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

Five of the Government's six independent economic advisers – the "wise persons" - yesterday allempied to persuade the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, not to indulge in a pre-election Budget tax give-away.

All but Professor Patrick

Minford of Liverpool University were against substantial

their pre-Budget advice to Mr need further help was rein- ant economy in the run-np to rising prices were "at last being Clarke, because of the speed forced by the latest purchasing the election came from the complemented by a stronger with which the economy is

This contrasts with the widespread view in the City that the Chancellur is preparing tn give away £2hn-£3bn in tax cuts to appease anxious backbenchers. probably with 1p off income tax. Same of the panel believe this will happen despite their advice.

The panel's helief that the tax cuts, and two proposed an economy is already growing at immediate fiscal tightening in a spanking pace and does not

managers' index which rose to an 18-month high in October. the fifth consecutive monthly in-

The rise from 53.5 in September to 54.5 in October contrasts with subdued indications of manufacturing growth from nfficial statistics. HSBC James Capel said the survey was fur-ther justification for this week's rise in interest rates.

Nationwide monthly index of house prices, which rose 0.8 per cent, after seasonal adjustment, between September and October, leaving prices 7.9 per cent higher than a year earlier, the

covery began.

A year ago Nationwide said house prices were falling at an annual rate of 3.9 per cent. Philip Williamson, Nation-

highest annual rate since the re-

complemented by a stronger trend in house sales". He added that the housing recovery had

much further to go.

The report by the Chancel-lor's independent advisers had little impact on the markets because of the six economists' lack nf consensus on the outlook, although they came nearest to agreement on fiscal policy.

In the City some economists claimed after the interest rate cut on Wednesday that the Chancellor was hacking the employers wanted tax reduc-Bank of England's demands tions of at most £1bn and arfor higher interest rates for political reasons, to make it easier to reduce taxes.

Professor Minford called for £4bn in cuts, including 2p off the standard rate of income tax to 22p in the pound. The other five ibers of the panel recommended varying degrees nf tightness in Budget decisions on taxes and public spending. Kate Barker, of the Confed-

guably nil. The emphasis should be on cuts in company rather than personal taxes, she added. Professor Tim Congdon, of

Lombard Street Research, called for a combination of tax increases and perhaps public spending cuts to reduce government borrowing.

Martin Weale, of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, said there was no reason tax increases

lead to a slowdown in economic activity.
On interest rates, which Mr

Clarke raised on Wednesday, the panel is divided. While Professor Minford would like to see modest interest rate cuts to ensure that the economic recovery continues, two others ar-gue for higher rates for the Government to meet its inflation target, and the other three say they would not recommend any immediate change.

Television wars: Satellite giant marches relentlessly on as a change in the rules spells further consolidation in the sector

BSkyB 'on course for Warner deal'

Business Correspondent

BSkyB yesterday vigorously de-nied claims that it had indefi-nitely postponed the UK launch of the Warner Channel after pressure from Rupert Murdoch, the satellite channel's 40 per cent shareholder.

Gerry Robinson, chairman of BSkyB, insisted that the decision had been entirely a commercial one taken by the company itself and claimed a deal with Warner could soon he signed.

"We continue to he in discussions with them and we expect a satisfactory outcome," he said after BSkyB's annual meet-

ing yesterday.
On Thursday night the group made the surprise announcement that the Warner Channel would not he appearing yes-terday, even though the US company had advertised a 1 November launch around the UK. Warner Channel, part of Ted Turner's Time Warner empire. would offer a selection of car==: toons including Bugs Bunny to 5.65 million, of which 3.3 mil-

caused by arguments over the price of the channel, rather than the long-running and pub-lic feud in the US hetween Mr Murdoch and Mr Turner. Mr Murdoch, a BSkyB di-

rector, was noticeably absent from the podium at the agm in London, though his daughter. Elisabeth, also a BSkyB executive though not on the board, was in the audience.

This latest twist in the saga of Mr Murdoch's tightening grip on the pay-televisinn market emerged as BSkyB released figures showing growth con-tinued to exceed expectations.

Pre-tax profits soared by 31 per cent, from £51m to £66m in the three months to the end of September against forecasts of around £60m, while turnover jumped by 24 per cent to £266m. Earnings per share increased by 30 per cent, to 3.9p.

There was a net increase of 146,000 new subscribers during the period, taking the total number of paying customers in the UK and the Irish Republic lion used satellite dishes and Sources close to BSkyB 1.87 million received BSkyB claimed the delay had been through local cable companies.



'Deal on the way': Gerry Robinson, chairman of BSkyB, insisted that the decision had been an entirely commercial one

The group also disclosed that it is considering further investments in Germany in addition to the 49 per cent stake in DF1, im a convertible share issue to the digital television transmission platform in July.

The results did little to bolster the company's flagging share price which has fallen

fund future media projects. Shares in BSkyB fell 9.5p to close at 569p.

Asked by one small shareholder at the AGM whether Mr

Murdoch intended to go ahead with the controversial arrangement, which was apparently postponed pending yesterday's quarterly results. Mr Rohinson replied: "Nothing has been fi-nalised on that ... we at BskyB have no influence over that."

baving to be re-elected to the board in future. Both Jerome Seydoux and Michel Crepon were re-appointed under the controversial formula which The board also managed to

fend off a shareholder revolt over a resolution that would. after Mr Robinson announced that shareholders accounting for prevent two directors from ever 96 per cent of the company had voted in favour. One investor, John McCal-

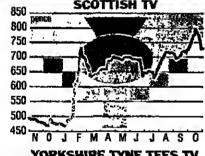
him from the West Midlands Pension Fund said the provi-

have the figures first?" --

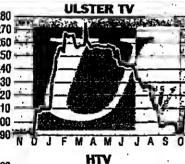
sonal pension and transfer oc-cupational scheme funds into it. Sources said a decision by the

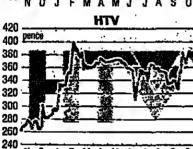
Comment, page 23

TUNING IN: BETTING ON THE NEXT TAKEOVER TARGET GRAMPIAN TV.











United News & Media snaps up HTV option

Tom Stevenson City Editor

United News & Media fired the starting gun yesterday on the long-awaited next-round consolidation of Britain's commercial television sector. As expected, it exercised an option to huy a 20 per cent stake in Welsh ITV contractor HTV on the first day of new industry

ownership regulations. United bought the stake from Scottish Television on the day the Government eased regulations that for the first time allow companies to control more than two ITV licences.

Provided a single company does not control more than 15 per cent of the total television audience in the UK it is now free to own as many franchises as it

Following the exercise of its call option at 420p, United said yesterday it had no plans to make a full offer for the whole of HTV. The stake was only an investment, the company said.

That has not stopped shares in a handful of television companies rising sharply recently in anticipation of further bid action in the sector. Favourites to be snapped up in the expected carve-up include YorkshireTyne Tees, up 15p to 1,282.5p yesterday and more than twice their level a year ago. Others on the block are Grampian, Border, Westcountry and Scottish. Dealers continue to expect

takeover action despite many analysts believing share prices are unsustainably high after recent strong runs. HTV, which closed unchanged last night at 378.5p, is worth over £330m while Yorkshire, which Granada is thought to be circling, could fetch as much as £800m.

United's move on HTV is expected to prompt a response from Michael Green's Carlton Communications.

PIA bid to gag critics attacked

Nic Cicutti

The Personal Investment Authority, the financial regulator, yesterday came under attack over its moves to gag critics of its pension transfer review. The PIA has ordered an inquiry into a leak of figures to the Independent that showed barely any redress had so far been paid

The regulator announced that it intended to appoint "an independent person of stature" to carry out the inquiry. A spokesman said the PIA took the leak "extremely seriously".

The figures, presented to a PIA board meeting earlier this month, show that redress has been offered in barely 2,500 cases, out of 360,000 identified as priorities.

However, the PIA's plans for a mole-hunt were attacked by consumer groups, who claimed its time would be better spent ensuring that victims of the pension transfer scandal received swift redress.

In addition one senior regulator, who declined to be named, said he was "baffled" by the move: "It could be argued that criticism is acceptable hut leakage is not. But how do you criticise anything if you'don't

The PIA announcement came as new evidence mounted of more delays faced by those wrongly advised to buy a per-

Securities and Investments
Board, the senior City regulator, to try to kick-start the fal-tering review process had been caused by new figures showing very low response rates to insurers' inquiries by their clients. In the document obtained by the *Independent* carlier this week, this varied between more than 75 per cent for Barclays Life to less than 50 per cent for Norwich Union.

It is now believed that these figures relate to the first letter sent to clients, in which they are simply asked to indicate their willingness to take part in the review. A second mailing, which contains a detailed questionnaire for individuals to complete, is said to be achieving a far lower response rate.

32 arrested over \$2m Amex card fraud

Banking Correspondent

ity by two employees.

Four people have been arrested in London in connection with an alleged \$2m credit card scam at American Express. Investigators in the US believe they have cracked an international Nigerian organised erime ring. In total, 32 people were arrested after American Express alerted the US authorities to its suspicions of fraudalent activ-

Most of the arrests, which followed a five-month investigation, were in North America after a swoop in several US cities, Montreal and London.

US investigators suspect that the two employees were tapping into the company's computer system and giving confidential information about customers to accomplices across the US. Canada and the UK.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said vesterday that two men and two women had been arrested under section seven of the

"As part of a joint operation between the Metropolitan Police and law enforcement agencies throughout the US, six search warrants were executed at addresses in London," the spokesman said.

He declined to disclose the identities or the nationalities of the four people arrested but said the inquiries were in connection with counterfeit credit cards.

The four have been released Forgery and Conterfeiting Act on police bail until 15 January pending further investigation The allegations of fraud af-fected 37 American Express accounts in the US. American Express said it had protected the

accounts and reissued cards. "By working closely with the Secret Service 10 isolate and monitor the activities of these employees, we were able to help an investigation that has made an important impact on a fraud ring operating within the card industry and minimise any future activity at American Express or elsewhere," American Express said in a statement. In Washington, the US Treasury Department said the 32

people arrested were indicted for conspiracy to commit access device fraud and wire fraud. Searches had produced many American Express credit cards and credit histories of American Express customers, cash and

forged documents, the Treasury

Department said.

Sainsbury's is stepping up its at-tack on Tesco with a new pro-

Customers can claim the points on their Reward card.

Sainsbury steps up Tesco assault Products listed in the promotion include Nescafé coffee.

Tetley tea bags, and Heinz soups. Sainsbury's claims that a family motional programme for its loyalty card. From tomorrow spending £75 a week would earn Sainsbury's is giving away extra points on a range of more than

These can either be redeemed against future shopping bills or doubled if spent on Sainsbury's offers with BT, Beefeater, Sketchley or TGI Friday's.

enough Air Miles points to qualify for four flights to Paris within a month. Kevin McCarten, marketing director, claimed the development made Sainsbury's card the best in the sector. The move comes in the same week as Sainsbury's announced a 14 per cent drop in first-half profits to £393m together with disappointing sales figures. Last

new Sainsbury's Bank which will start operating in the new year. The move is part of an attempt to wrest the marketing initiative away from rivals Tesco and Asda. Safeway responded with an initiative of a different sort. It

is pioneering the cause of the British-produced baked bean. From Monday more than 350,000 tins of Safeway British baked beans will hit the shelves. Safeway claims that a switch to UK production could save Britain £40m a year in imports.

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Heavy trading marks New Holland debut

Michael Harrison

Nearly 10 per cent of the shares in New Hulland, the Britishbased tractor manufacturer, changed hands yesterday as trading began in New York following its \$3.22bn (£2bn) flotation by parent company Fiat of

In early trading the stock fell from the issue price of \$21.50 to \$21.12 as more than 12 million shares were traded.

Fiat, which formed New Holland in 1991 after taking over Ford's tractor business based at Basildon, Essex, sold 46.5 mil-

lion shares representing 31 per cent of the company, raising just short of \$1hn. The shares were priced in the middle of the in-dicated \$20-\$23 range.

New Holland is the biggest tractor manufacturer in Europe and the third-biggest in the US after John Deere and Case. It employs 19,000 world-wide, of which 2,400 are in Britain. In addition to the Basildon

eadquarters in Brentford, west London. Last year the company made net profits of \$258m on sales of \$5bn. ..

plant, New Holland has its

JEREMY WARNER

The PIA is subject to

powerful two-way

pulls. On the one

hand there is the

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Signal diamondario

yet to be finalised. John Lewis Partnership, the department stores group, said total sales for the 13 weeks to 26 October were 12.6 per cent higher we made that the Mills To the thirt special Sale la 111 Control stores was up 9.6 per cent. Gara Sapal has --Secretary secretary and secretary secre

Who is holding the City watchdog's leash?

The trouble with the Personal Investment Authority, the City watchdog, is that you never quite know whn's in the driving seat. Is it Britain's army of savers, whose interests it is there to protect, or is it the savings industry that funds it and still accounts for nearly half its board of directors?

The question seems worth asking again because of last week's leak to the independent of confidential PIA papers demonstrating the industry's shameful record in dealing with the pensions transfer scandal. Of the more than 360,000 priority cases identified, the industry has assessed less than 10,000, or under 3 per cent. The record is even worse for some household names. The Pru, with the highest number of priority

cases at 41,000, has processed only 10.

But for the leak, these figures would probably have remained buried behind a legal wall of confidentiality, for despite pressure for publication as part of a "name and shame" policy by elements within the PIA. it was decided to keep the statistics under wraps. Now you have to understand that this was a decision taken entirely on legal grounds. It was nothing to do with the fact that the industry didn't want in see the list published. No siree. Actually the reason was that if the PIA published them, it would be open to legal action from life assurers wishing to challenge the validity of the figures. Er, yup. Well it convinces mc anyway.

figures leaked. Colette Bowe, the PIA's chief executive, has reacted by ordering the appointment of "an independent person of stature" to investigate this "extremely serious breach of confidentiality". Ms Bowe, an accomplished operator in a difficult job. knows a thing or two about leaking. It was she who, as head of press at the Department of Irade and Industry during the Westland affair, famously leaked the solicitor general's letter, culminating ultimately in the resignation of both Leon Brittan and Michael Heseltine from the Cabinet.

Admittedly she was only the conduit for a leak ordered by others, but presumably the experience was good tutoring in the arts of spin doctory. It might even be suspected that she is the source of the leak in this case, were it not for the fact it would be unthinkable for a chief executive to engage in double-dealing of this sort. Nn wonder she has to be seen to be vigilant in hunting the mole.

The point remains the same, none the less.
The PIA is subject to powerful two-way pulls.

On the one hand there is the industry with its vested interest in presenting matters in the best possible light; nn the other are the people for whose benefit the PIA is meant to exist, in this case those who were misled into buying an inappropriate pension. For them, publication, albeit by the unorthodox route of an unofficial leak, is the best thing level best first to deny the problem and then sit on it. Paralysis seems to grip all concerned. At the present rate of progress, many victims will be dead by the time compensation is agreed.

To be fair on the PIA, it is not quite as much the industry's creature as might be supposed. Despite its connections with the industry, it is no longer really a self-regulatory organisation. Its authority is a statutory one derived from the Securities and Investments Board and certainly it thinks of itself as an entirely independent organisation. While its chairman, Joe Palmer, was chief executive of Legal and General at the time all those pensions were mis-sold, he's now very much a poacher-turned-gamekeeper figure. Ms Bowe herself is anbody's poudle All the same, the PIA remains too close to the industry it regulates. Every time anything contentious crops up, this fundamental conflict of interest shows up in sharp relief. Reform should be a priority for whoever forms the next government.

You hegin almost to feel sorry for the poor old Pru. The PLA figures expos-ing it as the worst inflender in dealing with the pensions mis-selling scandal inliew hard on the heels of an equally alarming pension products.

In terms of investment performance, most of the big life assurers are all much of a muchness. They vary a bit from year to year, but over the long run they all generate roughly the same returns.

The difference is accounted for largely by administrative costs and charges. On this front the Pru scores particularly highly, This is partly because it is a proprietary company, and must pay some of the profits gen-erated in the life fund to outside shareholders. But it is also because costs are just simply too high. Curiously, neither of these two things

seems so far to have affected the company ability to sell, even though industry specialists have been vaguely aware of them for some years now. Last year the Pru took more new annualised premium income than anyone clse. This year it is still running Equitable Life a close second. The power of brand and marketing is a mighty powerful thing, it would seem.

It may not last though. The public is slowly becoming more savvy in these things. It is still possible for a clever life assurance salesman to sell his client a pup but it is not nearly as easy as it was. Furthermore, reaction to adverse publicity is nearly always a delayed one. The sales figures may look all | of, then it should not be trying at all,

Apparently not everyone, however, for the gures leaked. Colette Bowe, the PIA's chief that could have happened. This affair has been dragging on for the best part of the recentive, has reacted by ordering the detade. Meanwhile the industry has done its pension products. executive, would be well advised to spend less time dreaming up grand acquisition and banking strategies and more on setting his present house in order.

> The Labour Party is getting its knickers in the most frightful twist over the windfall profits tax. This is the Labour Party's only revenue-raising tax proposal thus far, so come hell or high water, there is no question of it

being dropped.

The difficulty comes in deciding how the tax should be levied. Whichever method is chosen, it is going to be unlair, so Goldman Sachs, which is developing an unhealthily close relationship with New Labour, has devised a way (gratis) for Mr Blair which it considers least unfair. The idea is that all privatised companies should pay about 15 per cent on any return made by shareholders over and above the stock market average. Simple.

There is an obvious flaw, however. The effect is to tax present shareholders, many of whom will be new to the company and won't therefore have benefited from the windfall gains. If Guldman Sachs cannot come up with a way that is fair on the capitalist system it makes so much money our

HOW L'EAU CAN

VOUS GET?

View Point -

Mid Kent takes final stand against 'vultures'

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Directors of Mid Kent Water, one of the 19 smaller drinking water companies, are preparing a last-ditch attempt to persuade the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to block a takeover jointly launched by two French companies, Saur and General Utilities.

Ten months after the hid was first announced, the simmering feud between the two sides has boiled over into a furious public row as Mid Kent mounted a high-profile public campaign against what it claims is an "arrogant and hostile" carve up of a defenceless British company by French aggressors.

At a formal hearing on Mon-day before the MMC panel, Geoff Baldwin, Mid Kent's chairman and chief executive, will claim Saur and General Utilities, which each own 19.5 per cent stakes in the Maidstone-based company, have effectively already merged their interests.

Evidence for the complaint revolves around the behaviour of the two French conglomerates at Mid Kent's annual general meeting in July, where Mr

Baldwin claims they combined to vote down several board resolutions, including an executive bonus scheme. Allegations that the two firms acted in concert are thought to have persuaded the MMC to extend its investigation into the takeover from 30 September to 9 December.

For the first time they came along and voted logether," ex-plained Mr Baldwin, "What concerns me now is that I've appointed a new director and I'm unable to offer a suitable exec-

The response of Peter Darby, managing director of General Utilities-owned Folkestone and Dover Water Services, gives a taste of how had relations with his neighbour have become. "It's absolute nousense and we've given the MMC our evidence about his claim. There was absolutely no collusion between us and Saur.'

However, as the MMC probe enters its final furlong, there are growing signs that Mid Kent's campaign may have backfired. utive share plan because of Unions have hacked the hid on what happened at the AGM." the grounds that Mid Kent



der French control.

Worse still, there are fears that the advertising campaign, complete with French vultures preying on a noble British stallion, may have offended as many people as it attracted. Stunts have included trailing a banner from a light aircraft outside the Liberal Democrats' partly conference in Brighton.

Mr Darby claimed he was horrified by Mr Baldwin's campaign and had made formal complaints to the MMC and the Takeover Panel. "He's put out some appalling stuff about the French. For a county which does so much trade with France it is very damaging

At the heart of the debate is the long-term future of water resources in the South-east, a region in the throes of a severe water shortage.

Saur, which owns South East Water to the west, and General Utilities have pledged to huild a water grid across Kent at a cost of £19m without raising bills beyond price limits set by the industry watchdog, Both French-owned compa-

nies have had increasingly stringent restrictions on demand,



Why the proposed French takeover of Mid Kent Water won't wash.

MID KENT HOLDINGS

Water fight: There are fears the advertising campaign may have offended as many people as it attracted

including the free installation of also has a stake in a reservoir commercial rates without the meters for customers and hosemanaged by the region's com-

Partly through geographic accident, Mid Kent has more Southern Water. However Mid Kent insists its Though 90 per cent of its supneighbours could buy water of plex arguments is the unenviplies come from boreholes, it

near Tunbridge Wells which is need for new infrastructure. According to Mr Baldwin, the bined water and sewerage firm, idea of a grid "just doesn't make a lot of sense"

Deciding between such comthe company at reasonable able task of the MMC panel led

by deputy chairman Dan Govder, who organised the controversial reports into the two bids for South West Water. So far, defending the bid is thought in have cost the com-

pany more than £1m, compared

with annual profits of £13m.

IN BRIEF

· Cable & Wireless yesterday unveiled plans to lay a fibre optie telecommunications cable linking China and North America at a cost of up to \$500m. The project follows a memorandum of understanding with China signed yesterday by Cable & Wireless's chief executive, Dick Brown, who opened a representative office

• The US and EU have decided to continue talks on an "open skies" agreement in early 1997, the European Commission's Washington delegation said. "The delegations agreed that it could be useful to continue their dialogue in early 1997 and will be considering how to move forward." the European Commission added. The two sides discussed the areas of competition, ownership and control restrictions, computer reservation system rules, dispute settlement, code-sharing and leasing. On the subjects of the exchange of traffic rights and the tariff approval regime, the EU delegation said it was constrained by the terms of its mandate and was not free to enter into negotiations.

 TR Technology Trust (TRT) has agreed reconstruction terms of its shares and package units with a new investment trust, Henderson Technology Trust (HTT). TRT, which was due in be wound up on 30 April 1998, said it had always intended to allow shareholders to continue investment beyond that date. Shareholders are being offered one HTT 'C' share for each TRT ordinary share. After completion, the 'C' shares will be convertible into HTT ordinary shares and warrants.

. The number of UK company failures fell by 10 per cent in the third quarter of this year compared with the same period in 1995. There were 3,423 company insolvencies in the three mnnths to end-September. In the same period 6,657 individuals were declared bankrupt, a rise of 0.2 per cent.

 US non-farm payroll employment rose by 210,000 in October, the Labor Department said. The monthly unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.2 per cent, and average hourly earnings were also unchanged at \$11.91 (£7.29). The consensus forecast among analysts was for October non-farm payroll employment to rise by 251,000 jobs and for the unemployment rate to remain unchanged. Hourly earnings were expected to rise 0.4 per cent.

 David Abbott's 11-year reign as chairman of Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising agency, will end on 31 December when he will step down from the board. However, he will continue to be chairman and creative director of Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO.

 SAS Scandinavian Airlines System is cutting economy class return fares from Copenhagen to seven European destinations by 20-30 per cent in response to competition from UK operators Virgin Express and DebonAir. The cuts come into effect from Tuesday and will be in effect until 31 December on flights to Brussels, Nice, Madrid, Barcelona, Milan, Rome, and Vienna. The cheap flights will be available on certain conditions, such as a Saturday overnight stay, and must be booked seven days

 Colt Telecom Group, which provides local telecommunications services in London and Frankfurt, intends to seek a share listing in London and a quotation of American Depository Shares on Nasdaq in the US. The company plans to raise around £65m via a global equity offering. Timing and terms of the offering have

than the same period a year ago. Department store sales in the 13-week period were up 16 per cent, while turnover in the food

Whitbread eyes £40m **BrightReasons** sites

Whithread is in talks to acquire the sites owned by BrightReasons, the Pizzaland and Bella Pasta group which has 180 outlets. The price is expected to be £40m-£50m, far ower than previous estimates. Whitbread is undertaking its due diligence process so the deal is unlikely to be announced with half-year results next Tuesday.

Whitbread is keen to expand its leisure interests following its £133m acquisition of Pelican, the Café Rouge and Dôme restaurant group, in July. It will re-brand the Pizzaland and

Bella Pasta outlets as branches of Café Rouge, the Dôme and Costa Bros Coffee, another new Whithread theme.

Cafe Rouge is tipped as the format most ripe for expansion. Most of its existing branches are within the M25 while 80 per cent of BrightReasons' outlets are nutside London. The deal will therefore provide Whit-bread with a short-cut to national coverage. The Pizzaland and Bella Pasta formats are of little interest to Whitbread as it already jointly owns Pizza Hut

with PepsiCo. Mark Puleikis of Merrili Lynch praised the deal. "Potentially, it lonks very good. Whitbread wants to roll out the Café Rouge chains and this is

ahundant water resources.

pipe bans.

a perfect way to do that." BrightReasons was founded in 1990 by Michael Guthrie. Bella Pasta, which has 54 outlets, was launched in 1992 having evolved from the Pastificio chain. Pizzaland was acquired from Grand Metropolitan in 1991. It now has 104 branches. There are 20 branches of Pizza Piazza which were acquired from Rank in 1993.

An attempt at stock market flotation failed and Bright Reasons was put up for sale earli-

Salomon allowed to drop monthly reports to SFA

Jill Treamor Banking Correspondent

The Securities and Futures Authority, the securities regulator, yesterday spared Salomon, the giant US investment bank, from further humiliation by lifting the special conditions imposed on the bank a year ago after the discovery of sloppy accounting procedures dating back 10 years. In October 1995 the SFA nr-

dered Salomon Brothers Inthe US hank, in submit monthly reports. These reports were "designed to highlight any problems that arise in the reconcil-

iation of general ledger ac-counts and to track the satisfactory resolution of those problems". Once a quarter the bank's auditors had to review the monthly filings and submit a report to the SFA.

The unprecedented measures followed a \$194m pre-tax book-keeping loss in Salomon's 1994 accounts, generated by a series of accounting problems in London which in the fourth quarter of 1994 forced the bank take \$278m of pre-tax charges.

The SFA said Salomon had breached its rules which required control systems keep pace with the expansion and

complexity of its husiness as set out in the Securities and Investments Board's principles. The regulator said yesterday:

Based upon the information that the SFA required Salomon to submit for the 12-month period from 12 October 1995, the SFA is satisfied that the changes implemented are operating cfcan be discontinued."

A spokesman for Salumon said: "Twelve months ago we had corrected the problems and were in full compliance with the rules. The decision to lift [the reporting requirements is con-

Equities will suffer from a shift in US policy

The US presidential and congressional elections, nominally the world's most important electoral contest of the year, has turned out to be a rather dull and predictable affair, at least for the political commentators. For investors, however, the effect of the likely re-election

of President Bill Clinton next

week has been harder to gauge. That he will be returned to the White House is more or less being taken as a foregone conclusion by markets. Mr Clinton has run a clever tactical campaign against an extremely poor effort by his rival, Senator Bob Dole, but has given very little away about the hig issues. Once the election is out of the way, reducing the budget deficit and the policy of supporting a strong dollar are likely to again move up the new administra-

Meanwhile the Federal Reserve may feel less constrained politically in pursuing monetary policy. Fears that overhearing in the economy will lead to renewed inflation could see the Fed act before the end of the year to raise interest rates. The spillover from any shift

tion's agenda for action.

in US economic policy is likely to have the biggest impact on UK equities. On one rather apocalyptic view. President Clinion may abandon the policy adopted in the first half of st year of talking up the dollar, leading to a run on equities around the world.

Albert Edwards, a strategist at Kleinwort Benson Securities. argues that the currency's strength has suited everyone's book. Both the Japanese economy, which teetered on the verge of deflation last year, and

SHARES BOOM.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

the continental European one have received a boost from the policy, which has helped make exports from both areas more competitive. At the same time, the strong dollar has acted as a hrake on the strengthening US economy without the authorities having to resort to a rise in interest rates.

The problem, Mr Edwards argues, is that Mr Clinton will be forced by the mounting trade deficit to abandon this policy, leading to sharp rises in interest rates to choke off the inflationary effects of a sudden weakening of the currency.

That could have dramatic ef-

fects on equities.

index, leaving it languishing near the 5,000 level by the year end, and, although he believes the London market is exhibiting defensive qualities, it is inconceivable that there would not be some collateral damage from a Wall Street slump of that magnitude. But while others see little

signs that the new administration will want to reverse the dollar's appreciation, even some more sanguine observers expect

...AS THE DOLLAR SOARS



J F M A M J J A S O N O J F M A M J J A S O

He is forecasting a fall of up to 20 per cent in the Dow Jones again.

Highlighting which shares are likely to be hit it there is a fall out from President Clinton's policies is tricky. Eatliet this week, the UK drugs sector fell out of bed as fears swept the market that he would again attempt to clamp down on the drugs bill to help curb the government deficit. Casualties of any new assemb

on the drugs spending would obviously include the likes of Glaxo Wellcome, SmithKline Beecham and Zeneca, given their exposure to the hig US market for pharmaceuticals. Another company clearly in the firing line in the wider attack on health is BAT Industries, given President Clinton's antipathy to the tobacco industry. although the shares are already discounting much of the worst. Others likely to suffer are Smith & Nephew and Vickers.

All is not gloom, however. Drugs companies would be beneficiaries of possible moves initiated by Mr Clinton to speed up approvals of new drugs by the powerful Food and Drug Administration.

market report / shares

FTSE 100 3948 - 30.6 **FTSE 250** 4429.2 + 6.7

FTSE 350 1971.4 - 11.3 **SEAQ VOLUME** 669.9m shares. 36,425 bargains Gilts Index

SHARE SPOTLIGHT

Talk of Shell strike for PowerGen enlivens the gloom

Shares have codured their rockiest week since the surprising autumnal rally started cited as a reason for inactivity and there is little doubt this month's Budget is beginning to prising autumnal rally started expected glow. Footsie fell week's interest rate increase is 30.6 to 3.948.5. bringing this still an adverse influeoce deweek's decline to 73.9 points. spite talk in some quarter that It is the first time the index has dipped below 3,950 for more move some of the nervousness than a month from the market.

The retreat has occurred against a background of a stock market which has lost its enthusiasm and is looking decidedly jaded and unadveoturous. Trading has oot been heavy but in such a lacklustre atmosphere it does not require much effort for sellers to

Blue chips should have £3.5hn generator sending the gained a little help from New York yesterday. A firm overnight performance was quickly shrugged off and a fluctuating afternoon display

bear down on sentiment. This week's interest rate increase is such a move was needed to re-

Government stocks gave

ground, up to 75p, oo stories

a leading US investment house

had advised selling, apparently

because of next year's election.

But even io a veritable wilderness of investment de-

mand it is always possible to get

a good story surging. Power Gen provided the vehicle with ru-

mours Shell will pounce on the

shares 9p higher to 519p.
PG, like National Power, has had a breathtakingly dismal run

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

claimed, generated a little US enthusiasm. NP ended 2p lower at 405p after touching 417.5p. The prospect of a power hid left Shell, already uneasy on the prospect of Iraqi oil flowing again, off 27.5p to 980p. Other electricities managed a few scattered gains on lingering take overhopes with waters trying to swim against the tide ahead of results.

On the merchant banking pitch Hambros again felt the uncomfortable tug of takeover speculation. An unidentified German bank was said to be about to strike. It was enough

stock market reporter of the year Kong fund manager, Regent Pacific, which has contented it-

self with buying 3 per cent of the equity hut managed to make a great deal of noise. The Far Eastern group is unimpressed with the merchant bank's profit display and is pressing for changes. Hambros is, however, recovering

from last year's 44 per cent profits fall and a sharp recovery is expected this year with, perhaps, £68m in sight and £98m next year.

Whitbread, interim figures oext week, gained 12.5p to 533.5p. It confirmed its inter-

Communications shares basked in the excitement of the industry's first day of (almost) free-for-all ownership. York-shire Tyne Tees added another 15p to 1,282.5p and Flextech rose 17.5p to 632.5p. Firstquarter figures and the hovering Murdoch cash-raising exercise lowered BSkyB 9.5p to

British Biotech edged ahead 2.5p to 229p ahead of the eagerly awaited update on its Marimastat cancer drug at a medical conference. Zeneca's decline, following its trading statement, continued with the shares down 20p at 1,652p. They were 1,750p before Tues-

day's announcement. In a buoyant travel sector irtours climbed a further 29.5p to 682.5p on hopes the Monopolies and Mergers Inecutive Search closed at 4.5p off a 3p placing price. Deep Sea Leisure, after a flat opening day, recovered 5p to 162.5p. The company runs the North Queensferry Aquarium, Scotland's third-largest tourist attraction, and is developing the Cheshire Oaks Aquarium, an £11.7m venture near Man-

JD Wetherspoon, the pubs chain, moved to another peak. up 17.5p to 1,212.5p. American fund managers are keen on the shares and there was talk they had picked up about 25,000, at

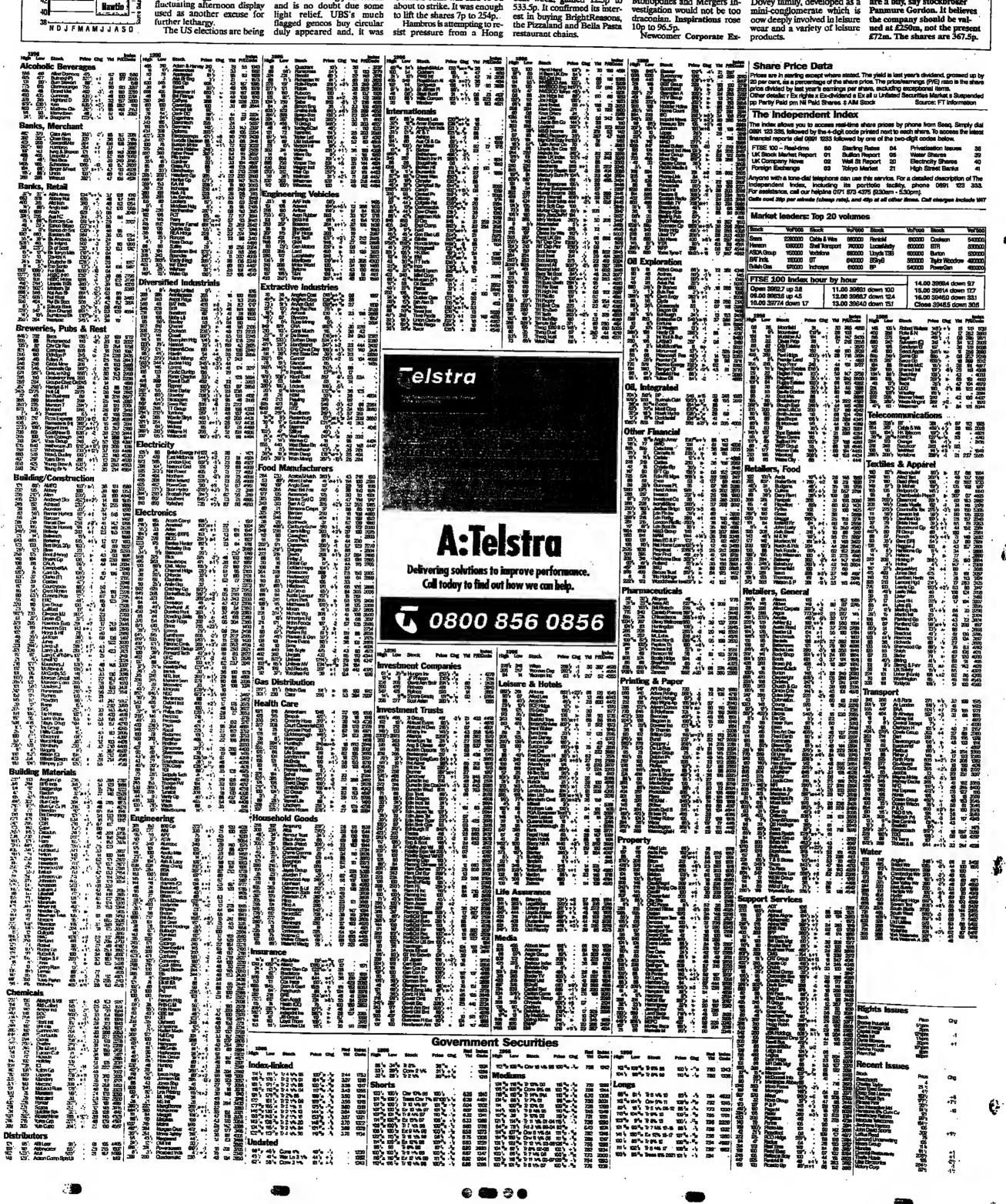
Hawtin, the leisure clothing group, gained 4p to 54p. Once an aspiring merchant bank it deal seems likely. was caught up in the 1970's secondary banking crisis and then, under the direction of the developing a TB treatment, Dovey family, developed as a

☐ Reshaping of Cartiste nes. With Deverok Pritchard, founder of nursing homes operator Takare, the guiding light and a hig shareholder the company is thought to be near to completing a big deal. Mr Pritchard's campaign will be belped by Carlisle's latest property sale, pulling in nearly £2.2m. The shares

Wedderburn, a property company, rose 1p to 11p as the former Suter stake, 26,3 per cent, was sold by Ascot Holdings. A reverse takeover

firmed to 12.25p.

are a buy, say stockbroker



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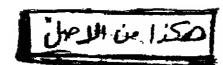
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ATHLETICS: Chicago triumph brings marathon fever to Cornwall. Mike Rowbottom reports



Marian Sutton, the pride of Looe, out on a training run by Siblyback Reservoir near Liskeard on Bodmin Moor

Sutton no longer running in the dark

The letter of congratulation was addressed, simply, to Marian Sutton. Marathon Runner.

Looe. It reached its destination. To be honest, the chances of its doing so were pretty good, given the amount of mail this 6ft athlete generated by her victory in last month's Chicago Marathon. Besides, there are not too many marathon runners in her particular Cornish town, as Sutton knows all too well,

The 33-year-old, who has worked for 14 years as a full-time solicitor's secretary, has nobody else to train with most of the time

on her morning and evening runs.

And now the nights are drawing in, limited street lighting means she has to work all four corners of the town, sometimes twice, to gain sufficient mileage. "I'm on automatic pilot," she said. "I can get to all four corners and know I've ruo for 40

minutes. I don't need a watch." Nor. in a sense, does she need the \$43,000 (£27,000) she picked up in the Windy City after a per-sonal best time of 2hr 30min 41sec had brought her her first marathon victory at the ninth at-tempt, "Everybody has been asking me what I'm going to do with all the money. I haven't got

a clue," she said. With her hus-

baod also working, in the local

council's legal department, and

no children oo the scene as yet,

she lives comfortably enough. As soon as she got back to the office, with her poster of a Rover Cabriolet next to her desk, she was asked if she was now going to huy the car for real. The answer was, and is:

definitely maybe. "To me, I've won a race," she said. "It's everybody else who's making a real big deal of it.

Looe is a very small communi-

here. And since Chicago they've just gone mad." There was the expected at-

tention from local TV, radio and press. There were hanners. There was hunting. And when she got home to her front room, there was the Mayor of Looe

gan - Karen McLeod and Suzanne Rigg - both had disappointing runs.

I was told I was left out because I wouldn't react well to

selected alongside Liz McCol-

the conditions in Atlanta," she said. "And yet I'd beateo Karen

The response has been wonderful. You'd think I'd won Olympic gold'

with a large bouquet of flowers. "I have had so many cards and letters and phone calls," Sutton said. "The response has been wonderful. Anyone would think

I'd won the Olympic gold,"

At which point you sense sharp regret. Sutton was controversially left out of the marathon team for Atlanta this in difficult conditions at the Stuttgart World Championships three years earlier. I could be a right grouch about it. Nothing will compensate for missing the Olympics. But I think I have proved my point oow."

A week after her victory she met the chairman of the marathon selectors, Alan Warn-

ty. There's about 5,000 people summer, when the two women er, at the Midland relays. "He was full of congratulations," she recalled. "I was very polite."

Whether she will be acquiescent to a request to run in next year's World Championships is. however, far from certain, "I will do a spring marathon, which is likely to be London," she said. "I definitely wouldn't do the worlds as well. I don't think there is ecough time in between."

She is inclined to prudence in exerting herself, but that is partly because she foresees a career that will continue for at least another four years.

"There is a lot more in me yet," she said. "I don't feel I've peaked." By way of encouragement, she needs point no further than the Chicago result sheet - the first 14 home were over 30 years of age.

Runners such as Joyce Smith, who won top class marathons in her forties, and even Eamonn Martin, still competing at top level at 38, are inspirational to her.

Looking forward to next year, she can expect a new attitude from race organisers and an opportunity to improve still further on her Chicago time which places her 10th on the alltime British list. "When I crossed the line in Chicago and saw the clock I was disappointed," she said. "I had set a

target of running sub-2:30." Her other abiding target however, is an appearance at the Olympics after the frustration of being named as reserve in 1992 and 1996.

In the meantime she is working on one other ambition. "The people at work are very good about my running, but if they can be a little more lenient on me it will mean I can run in the day-light." It doesn't seem a lot to ask.

Giles braves heat of battle

Cricket

England A 155 New South Wales 2nd XI 215-5

Ashley Giles struggled through the Australian heat to underline his Test credentials and prevent New South Wales XI from establishing a commanding firstinnings lead over England A on the second day of their tour match in Tamworth.

Giles, the Warwickshire leftarmer, grabbed 4 for 79 in 27 gruelling overs as NSW reached 215 for 5 to claim a 60-run advantage after wrapping up Eng-land's innings within three balls of their overnight 155.

The 23-year-old Giles reduced the inexperienced NSW line-up to 47 for 4 until Scott Thompson and Craig Glassock added 113 in 146 balls during the final session, which was extended to compensate for the delayed start following yesterday's torrential rain storm.

Thompson finished unbeaten

on 78, including nine fours and three sixes, while Glassock was on 56 when play finished to end Giles' marathon bowling stint.

"I was pleased with the way I bowled early on but I got very tired in the final session. The heat was incredible," he said.

The last session was very long but considering it was the first team we've bowled for about six weeks, I thought we stuck to our

task well." Securit day of four: England A won toos
ENGLAND A - First Inmings
(Overnight: 155 for 9; O A Sheh 76)
D W Heedley b Freedman
P M Such not out

Fet: 1-21 2-21 3-25 4-60 5-120 6-127 7-143 6-156 9-156. Bowling: Alley 10-3-21-2; Clark 7-0-28-0; MacGd 25-13-48-4; Thompson 7-2-20-1-

MacGil 25-13-43-4; Prompson 7-2:
reedman 20-5-6-41-3;
seev SOUTH WALES 2nd X2 - First Int
L Amberger 6 Headley b Gles
A D McQuire run out
M T Haywood 6 Heagl b Gles
C A Glessock not out.
C A Glessock not out.

S M Trongers
Extras (no. 1, 103 no.14)
Total (for 5, 73 overs)
Pell: 1-26 2-40 3-40 4-44 5-102
To bast: P. J. S. Aley, G. A. Freedman, S. Clark, 6. C. G. MacGall,
Bowling: Headley 10-2-30-0; Crupple 6-2-10-0; Gites 27-8-79-4; Such 23-4-73-0; White 5-1-11-0; Hohioseis 2-0-8-0.
Unspires: S. Tausel and I Emerson.

South Africa beat Australia by eight wickets in the Titan Cup triangular series in Gauhati, India. They won with five overs to spare after Michael Bevan (79) and Michael Sleter (53 oot out) had helped Australia make 238 for 6. In reply Andrew Hudson made 68 off 85 balls and Lance Klusener 88 not oot. India play Australia to-morrow to decide who meets

Lee lifts Old Loughts

BILL COLWILL

With just three points separating the top eight teams in the Premier Division of the National League, the going is getting tough.
The leaders, Old Loughtoni-

ans, who had two impressive wins last weekend, entertain, the highly talented but at times unpredictable East Grinstead tomorrow. The Old Boys expect to have Great Britain international Jason Lee, a former Grinstead player, back in their squad but are otherwise unchanged. Grinstead will be missing Scot-

tish international Marc Zander who was injured last weekeod. Second-placed Reading travel to Guildford who are not having the best of seasons in spite of the goalscoring trumphs of their player-coach, Ian Jennings. The all-attacking Can-

nock, currently in third place,

10-1 Becky's Lad

NEWMARKET

12.50: 1. KUMAIT (I. Dettori) 7-2; 2. Bedim evens fav; 3. Zeakir 4-1. 11 ran. 11/4, (Second bin Surcor, Newmarket). Total:

7rio: £1.70. 1.20: 1. RIVER USK (W Ryen) 5-1; 2. Bar-nam Sande 4-9 fav; 3. Our People 7-2, 4 san. Hd, 274 (H Cool, Novemerico). After a

sewards' inquity, placings unaltered. Total: Wir £5.00. Dual Forecast: £2.00. Computer

Surget Forgost: £9.24, 1.55: 1. PROPER BLUE (\$ Sunders) 15-2: 2. Matticoloured 4-1: 8. Certon Fox 5-1

5 mm. 5-2 fev Bright Water, NK, rk. (T Mils, Epsom). Toto: £7 20; £2-20, £1.60, £1.50. DP: £18-20. CSP: £33.08.

£3.80; £1.80, £3.50, £3.40. Dust Forecast: £56.60. CSF: £70.65. Tricest: £727.24. Tro.

E721.90.
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3.05: 1. ELLENS LAD (Pat Eddery) 11.4
3.07: 2. Wilcottlers Lad 6-1; 2. Gaedic Storm
7-2. 8 ran. 4, 11/4. (R Harmon, East Everlegth). Totac £3.00; £1.30, £1.80, £1.90,
Dual Forecast: £8.80. CSF: £1.7.4. Tricast:
£52.16.
3.40: 1. \$81/FEFTR (M Roberts) 12-1; 2.
Dalwhinnite 25-1; 3. Temptress £4.1.4. Totathy Yours 6-1 17 ran. 6-1 fav Glow Forum.
1/4. \$1.40; £2.40, £5.50, £3.40, £2.10. DF:
£170.80. CSF: £248.57. Tricast: £3.836.80.
The: £388.40.
4.15: 1. WHESPERING DAWN (P P. Mic.

11 Turns, 1881.0.

4.15: 1. WHSPERING DAWN (P P Murhrly 14-1; 2. Peppers 75-1; 3. Alletins Rocket 12-1. 4 Desphir 10-2. 2; rsn. 7-1 fav.
Lock Style. Nr. ½. (M Chamton, Upper Lambours). Tobe: £11.80: £2.80, £7.90, £2.80,
£4.00. DF: £156.80. Computer Straight
Forecast: £211.94. Theast: £3.948.09. Tho:
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Lackpot: Not wor: £10,650.09 camed forment to Newmarket below.

ward to Newmarket today. Piecepot: £227.00. Quadpot: £28.80. Piece 6: £205.13. Piece 6: £201.44.

WETHERBY

2 fas; 2. Leonato 25-1; 3. Zaft

2.30: 1. ORCHESTRA STALL (T Ourn) 7-

£3.60; £1.10, £1.60, £1.80. Dua/ For

visit Teddington, who are still without the Great Britain captain Jason Laslett, taking a well earned rest after his Olympic exertions. So there is unlikely to be any change in the top three

places on Sunday evening.
At the bottom, Havant, without a point, go to the Midlands to play Barford Tigers and are unlikely to receive any charity. Soothgate's player-coach, James Duthie, will be returning to struggling Surbiton - the side he coached for the past three years, alongside Nigel D'Cruz who left the Surrey chuh to move north of the river just a couple of weeks ago. Surbiton's midfield was strengthened last week with the arrival of the Pakistan under-21 international Mashood Hussain, but it is the

leaks in defence left by Duthie's departure they need to plug. In the First Division Beeston, three points clear of Bournville, eotertain Sheffield and look set to maintain their lead.

WARWICK

12.40 Handson 1.10 Zeredar 1.40 Time Enough 2.15 Runaway Pete 2.45 Lebedinski 3.20 Mr Conductor 3.55 Danzante GOING: theol to Pirm. M. Leit-hand course, Run-in of 240 yards.

Course is W of city on B4005, Buses from Warwick (1m) & Leanington Spa (2m), AD-MISSION: Club 512 (10 to 24-year-olds 56): Tattersulls 58; Course 55, CAE PARK: 53. SIS BACENG

ALINKERED PIRST TIME: Chillington (2.43). WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Zereder 11,101 won at Worcester last Saturday.

LONG DISTANCE BUNNERS: Eithe Governor (3,20) has been sent 199 miles by N

Lampard from King-Undge, Devon.

12.40 CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,650 added 2m 2-55151 PEGASUS BAY 69 00 O Carolion 5 12 0 2-55151 PEGASUS BAY 99 (0) O CARDAN 5 12 0
64PEL3 STAY WITH ME (9) (0) C Eyetun 6 12 0
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06-32 3 HANDOSON (10) 8 NATURA 11 8
1117-39 MEWINALL PRINCE (14) (0) A Streeter 8 11 7
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60613-6 SAN DEBO CHARGER (14) (0) A Bardo 5 11 4

220636- SUPERMICK (154) W May 5 11 0 ...

man reight 10st. Two handscap weight Out Of the Blue Set 13th. 1.10 ARNOLD LODGE SCHOOL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 431123 SUPER SHARP DOZ (21) (D) H Ower 8 11 D. 3-44231 CIRCULATION (18) (D) D McCan 10 10 D. Afternum weight 10st. True handcap weight Grozieson 9st 12h. BETTING: Evens Zerodor, 3-1 Northern Optimist, 7-2 Super 3b

1.40 BSPH HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added to stakes 3m 2f PUL251: COPPER NAME (364) RDJ 0 Sherwood 10 12 0. 3193-22 TRAKE ENOUGH (11) C Stroke 7 10 3. 413-67 CROPREDY LND (190) P Webber 9 10 1. 4505-6P BLITEE-ESS (6) R Weaver 11 10 0.

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03904 M MORSTOCK (7) R Hodge 6 11 1...
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2.15 TENSATOR HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 adds

d	15	LEMMOR LADY K Wingrove 10 7	Rya
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T)		1 Labothani, 7-2 How Could-I, 5-1 Indica, Fijon, 8-1 in Cab	
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=	log Fotore	4 Hossalian Sten, 5-4 Mr Conductor, 6-1 Elite Governor, 12-1	
B	3.55	WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMORROW' NH H) £1,550 added 2m	FLAT RACE (CLASS
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8	5	HONEST GEORGE K Bridgweler 5 11 4	R Minesey (S
8	5 B 7 00	LURD CTRYNE K WITTON 4 11 4	
3) 3)	7 00	NANSIZAL (16) K Bodgester 4 11 4	
	RETURNS 2	Honest George, S.1 Ditonoro, S-1 Nanibul, 7-1 Nova, S-1	Opposite, Lakel O'Rhyole

KELSO

1.00 Scrabo View 1.30 Antarctic Wind 2.00 Prince Skyburd 2.30 Flyaway Blues 3.00 Tighter Budget 3.30 Exemplar 4.00 Nonlos

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Left-hand, undulating years— Euron of two forlongs

1 tages—is N of town off Bellett, ADMINSTON: Club. arealis 57 (CAPs \$ 1, under-this tree). CAR PARK: Free

BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Rashma (vs-erd, 2.30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS; None. LANG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; Edical Note (1.30). Regal Rompet (2001), Coltie Silver (2001) and Exemplar (2001) have been yes 14' ander by Mrs S Smath, High Eldwork, W Yorks.

1.00 ISLE OF SKYE BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m 1f

2-4, 200 Served TO 307 014 BRIGHT DESTRY (16) I GASE E TO D. - 10 declared Nicolain wagen 20st. True handlag wegin Mater Trick 9d 9th, Dangurs Rijel 9d 10. Gright Destin, 9d 40

1.30 ROSALIND BIRTHDAY 'NH' NOVICE HUR-DLE (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 8f 110yds ANDARCTIC WIND (17) M Hammons G 10 12 R Cardity MER (8) E Elbott 10 10 12. ETHICAL NOTE (201) Mrs S Smith 5 10 12.... Richard Quest | Compared to the control of the con

- 10 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Antarctic Wind, 7-2 Profit And Lose, 6-1 Trap Dancer, 10-1 Milemium Man, 12-1 Featur Row, Whath-ind Romance, 18-1 others

2.00 NEWTON INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 1f

331310 BRANS DEUGHT (171) (CD) R.A.D. 8 10 10 . B Han BETTRIE: 7-4 Prince Stybert, 7-2 Brief's Delight, 4-1 Regal Romper, 9-2 Plant of Realm, 6-1 Worster George

BETTING: Evens Time Enough, 7-4 Copper Mice, 6-1 Croprety Lad, 12-1 Effect-Es 2.30 HARROW HOTEL (DALKETH) NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £3,000 added 2m 110yds

ASTRAL WEEKS (192) L LUMP 5 10 12. FLYAWAY BLUES (14) Mrs K Readley 4 10 12 PUBLIC WAY ILOUGH H Crave an 6 10 12 Mar CM - 12 declared -

BETTRUC: 5-2 Astral Weeks, 7-2 Plyanoy Bloce, 6-1 Stylish Interest, 7-1 Little Redwing, 14-1 Mary's Cope, Kantonia, 15-1 others

3.00 SALVESEN FOOD SERVICES HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £7,500 2m 6f 110yds 0053-1] BAS DE LANE (LA) (C) & Harryrood 10 11 12 ... R Carriety 8

OOH AAH DAILY STAR HANDICAP HUR-3.30 DLE (CLASS D) £5,000 2m 6f 110yds TALLYWAGGER (23) (SR) G N'oure 9 12 0 _____T Hogg (7) RALITSA (157) (C) LI HEMPTON 4 10 12 _____R Gently 21-4F1: TALLYWAY 004-60-1 LENGAR CLO (CD) Mrs. J Goodfolow 7:10 7 LE Col

- 8 declared -Mannum weight 10st. True handicap weight D'Artiay Street 9st 10th, Mara giant 95 De. BETTHER: 5-2 Yallywagger, 7-2 Micholas Plent, 4-1 Barkwhite, 5-1 Rai-lisa, 7-1 Mangier, 8-1 Energiar, 14-1 others.

4.00 LEVY BOARD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m

AN DANCING (18) (D) 3 Sisson 7 12 0 D J Karanag 411-333 EDEN DANCER (14) (D) Nas M Revery 4 11 10. __C MicConnact. (5) 3-54415 WELL REPORTED (7) 3 Machiner 7: 111 __ 3 Machiner 15
0256-24 First Tenries (7) 07 First 7: 10 10 __ E Callegian
3047: NORMAN (658) A Whiter 5: 10 0 ___ 5 Tenfor
426 PARKETRAN REPORTED (7) 10 ___ 5 Tenfor 426 PANGERAN (USA) (17) NEL 3 SA tork 4 10 0 ____ | So OUPP. KENO SABO (170) CParter 4 10 6 __ 5353-23 TEENAY WARREN (B) J Golde 4 10 C __

Minorum: 102. True engiges Herra Sako Ser 122, Teejay/n/Acr: Set St. BETTEND: 5-2 Monios, 3-1 Edus Duncer, 4-1 Fan Runder, 5-1 Well Appoints 8-1 Urban Duncing, 12-1 Teejay/n/altch, Pamgeran, 15-1 Others

WOLVERHAMPTON

7.00 Cee-n-K 7.30 Honestly 8.00 Two To Tango 8.30 Jimmy The Skunk 9.00 Verinder's Gift 9.30 Dragonjoy

STALLS: TI - ottoide; remainder - baide. DEAW ADVANTAGE: High from 6f to 1 m 4f. B Fibresand surface: left-hand, and course.

E Course at N of town on A419. Wolverhampton station I m. AD-MIDSHON: Clob S 15; Tattersulis 56 (OAP members of Diamond Club S 4): Viewing Restaurant \$25,70 including entrance and meal.

CAE PARE: Free.

BLINERERD FUST TIME: Spoudulichs (visured, 6.00); Junie's Boy (Makered, 7.00), Neon Delou (blinkered, 9.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Western Vernierre (fl.00) sent 454 miles by R McEellar from Lesmahagow, Strathelysie; Banachols Last (9.00) sent 181 miles by JJ Q'Neill from Skelton Wood End, Cambria. 7.00 PENDEFORD MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,000 added 270 66

7.30 SHIFNAL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F)

| 123,250 ettered | 121 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 | 123 41-4600 BONESTLY (19) (C) 8 Smart 38 13...

- 12 decired -BETTING: 3-1 Med Millions, 5-1 Princety Gets, 5-1 Honestly, 7-1 HE Parts Dencer, 8-1 Planty Dencer, No Benn, 12-1 others CHARLECOTE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,000 3YO 1m 100yds DARATOWN PEGES 90-

D LAUY MACHELLE CLER I Novice 10 7. 0304 BNLBERY (18) J Berry 6 9...... 5 CARREMAN (25) J L Eyre 8 9...... 064000 CERSE (54) W Bury 8 9...... P Roberts (5) 7 _R Lap Martin Dayer (5) 12 B F Lycet (S):

00-40 SMLING RESS (47) R Holinshed 6 9 60 SOLL SESTER (56) 0 Haydr Jones 8 9 SOUNDS LEGAL P Suns 6 9 5 THO TO TANGO (LO) J Garden 6 9 SETTING: 7-4 Two To Trago, 6-1 Carocaria, 5-1 Name of Our Father, 3-1 Enthusty, 12-1 Instalet, Sacillog Seas, 14-1 others

8.30 CASTLECROFT HANDICAP (CLASS E)

12 435415 SILVER HARROW (S) (D) A Newcortie 3 6 10 ... D detribe 2 - 12 declared -NG: 3-1 Appropris, T-2 Princess Ettelo, 6-1 Sturry 'n Smert, 6-1 Jun-ne Slamic, 20-2 Four Of Spedes, Silver Herrow, 12-1 others

9.00 MIDLAND BAR SELLING NURSERY HAND-ICAP (CLASS F) £3,500 ZYO 1m 100yds 1 ST1205 GROVEFUR DANCER (LA IC) Mas S Whiten 9 7

- 13 declared -SETTING: 9-2 Verlader's GRT, 5-1 Sports Edits, 8-1 Jagoist, 8-1 Neon De Bellydhero, 19-1 Grovelair Dancer, Lyclas Touch, 12-1 others

9.30 WEST MIDLANDS HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,200 added 6f

PICATENIA (150) / Spenng 3 8 12 HOW'S YER FROMER (11) (III) R Hooges 10 9 10. 000300 CHEST CHAPPY (5) (C) (D) (C CHAPPEN 59 10. A Coloma 13 6
A Coloma 13 6
Co - 13 declared -BETTHG: 3-1 Cheeky Chappy, 4-1 Defrub, 5-1 Discor Boy, 6-1 Poter R frain, 7-1 How's Yer Pether, 10-1 Aulta's Contraces, 12-1 others

1.30: 1. El DON (6 Guile) 11-4; 2. Heb-bank 9-1; 3. Epidos 4-1. 7 ran. 6-2 for Min-Lou-And (4th). Y. V. (M Ryen, Newmorket). Teles: 54.50: £1.10, £3.90. Dual Forecest: £15.90. CSF: £23.10.

£19.90. CSF: £23.10.
2.00: 1. GOLDEN HELLO (I. Wyer) 8-13
tov; 2. Chorus Line 4-1; 3. Köhnile 7-1. 4
san, £6, 21. (I Eastesty, Mahon). Totae £1.50.
DF: £2.80. CSF: £3.19.
2.38: 1. BURNT IMP (I Calaghan) 5-1;
2. Tura Ranchier 13-2; 3. Duly Boy 4-1.5
ran. 15-8 fav Admerals Seat (polled up). Hd.
2. IG M Moore, Middletram). Totae: £8.00;
£2.60. £1.80. DF: £13.40. CSF: £29.32.
3.10: 1. RESAL ROMPER (Richard Guest) 3.10: 1. RESAL ROMPER (Rechard Guest) 6-1; 2. Alfadeer 3-1; 3. Position Tower 5-4 fav. 4 ran. 14, 214, (Mrs S Synth, Bingley). Tobs: £5.30. DF: £6.10, CSF: £20.32. 3.46: 1. THE LAST FLING (Richard Quest) 5.65 (2); 2. Chapwell Carbains 11-4; 3. Young Dubliner 3-1. 4 ran. 3, 14. (Mrs. 6 Smith, Singley). Toba: £2.00. DF: £2.60. CSF:

RACING RESULTS 4.20: 1. QUEEN'S AWARD (M Griffiths) 20-1; 2. Mister Blake 9-1; 3. Pebble Beach 2-1 k fav. 5 mm. 2-1 k lav Smart Approach EMIRKET

بالماء الراجعة 21707

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(481). 15. 2. (R Buckler, Bridgort). Total £28.80; £6.20, £2.20. DF: £49.40. CSF: spot: £8,366.70. Quedpot: £1,003.10 - pen won: £366.02 carried forward.
Place 6: £9,890.26. Place 5: £4,199.85.

BANGOR 1.10: 1. INDRAPURA (A P McCoy) 1-2 fav: 2. Night Boet 11-1; 3. Nilling Brook 50-1. 12 mn. 1/4, 21. (M Ppe), Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.00, £4.50. Dual Forecast: £5.50. Com-

puter Straight Forecast: £7.16, Trio: £51.30. NRs: Bargash, Caldiury, 1.40: 1 MAJOR BELL (B Harding) 9-2; 2. Flepjack Led 7-1: 3. Ru 2. Finghack Lad 7-1; 3. Russtic Air 12-1; 3. Rus, 2-1 for Genylough, 24, 14, (A Writtens). Tota: E5-20; E1-40, E1-40, E2-80, Dusf Forcas: E22-40. USF: E32-66. Ticast: E321-43. 2-10; 1. AROUND THE GALE (R Durwood). 4-5 for; 2. Reflers 25-1; 3. Monymoos 33-1. 11 ma. 12, 145. 10 Gandotiol. Tota: E1-90; E1-10, £1-90, £3-60. DF: £1-20. USF: 20-43, 7m; E33-40. 2-46; 1. CASSIO'S BOY (D J Kavarnagh). 10-1; 2. Zingbar 6-1; 3. Rethy's intend 25-1, 10 ma. 9-4 for Remoter. 14-6. DE4: 40. DE4:

2-46: L. CASSAL'S BUT! (D. J. PAREMERN).
10-1; 2. Zingiber 6-1; 3. Bathy's island 251. 10 ran. 9-4 fav Ramsdens, Hd. 16, fit Eckley, Totas: £14-20; £3.90, £2.10, £4.70. DF:
£44.80. CSF: £63.88. Theast: £1.337.92.
The £50 EC. Trio: £85,50.

This: £85.50.

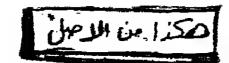
3.20: 1. BASILICUS (R Wildmson) 20-1;
2. Bailly Clover 11-2; 3. Leinthall Princess
25-1. 24 ran. 6-4 tav by House. 13, ½. (Mrs. Smith). Tote: £19.80; £5.00, £2.80; £3.90.
0F: £112.60. CSF: £123.00. 7/icast: £2.568.84. Ino: £450.70.

3.56: 1. CENTAUR EDTRESS (T Beyl 10-3 fax 2. Tarrange 11-2: 2. 3.55.1. CENTAUR EIGHESS (T Eigh 10-3.55.2. Tamaseq 11.-2; 3. Cooking's Valve 6-1. 10 ran. 7. 9. (A Streeter). Tota: £4.40; £2.00, £2.30, £2.60. DF: £15.30. Computer Straight Forecast: £20.46. Tracest: £95.67. 4.30: 1. JOHNNY-K (R Massey) 13-8 fav. 2. Wests Silk: 12-1: 3. Zander 6-1. 18 ran. 9. 4. (O Nicholson). Tota: £2.70; £2.20, £3.30, £2.20. DF: £24.50. CSF: £22.15. Trot £42.40.

Place 6: £283.04, Place 5: £213.60.







been. Bin Suroor saddles Fate- the United House Construction

them.

fully, one of the Dettori seveo

at Ascot five weeks ago, but she

will do well to repel Ali-Royal

(2.40), who is a better beast on

the official ratings.

Mark Johnston likes to cap-

ture the Zetland Stakes, but has

taken the unusual step of en-

tering an animal without the

prefix Double this year. Never-

theless, Eldorado (next best

3.10) showed at Bath on his de-

but that he has the promise to

match the fests of the brothers

TRAINERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Heiny Cocil Secod Blor Seror £1906,298 £1,940,107

Bir Geroor leads by £50,809

TODAY

oraves **F** battle

6 - THE INDEPENDENT

The last of the water by tent conventioning it was the fine parties of the second of the second s Marke Hippoliph Marine profile SHEELANGS A FEEL IMMENSA Charles of the Control of the Contro With the second Februa A Company of the Comp South Arrest by it Australia by early week in the little stop transmit seller m Cimilary, Jester Herr wim with tich ver to be of the other Michael Beyon Con and Michael Slater 12 to the could have helped Alls trafes trafes as he is he reply Andrew Hardson made as offst Palls and Lang. Klasener 88no curt limber place Australia jofibetters to decide who need South Man a make had.

)Id Loughts

> NEST TEACHER OF BRIDE SIR SIR william to committee captime to medical international CACHER, C. S. B., Charles Depipe Co. Crimina Section Bulliant in be any change on the tenthree Place of St. and Acting "No be to do not if want withcontactors of course Mallands trepline Barron. It its and are metrick in the commence of a bank So all the contract was beautiful form of but on the telephing to the sale the country of the state three who have the stress slub to generg in bie bei bei beiter gift a despet, comment of Subsets man by a transfer of the first of the Palestimate gertale to the estational Management for the benefit of the And some the Comp Duble's and apparture the more place. portly by the same Kenter : Is unambe Orion beautiful the country of the many book they be assessed to the or the al-

Marie parties. At the control of the second of the second SMARE (ELATES D) まったい added 2m

TOWNSHIP THE FLAT BACL CLASS

CANGOR

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STORY WY

0891 26113 (C. C. C. C. C. SETTING: 9-2 Meteomis Chile, 5-1 Imperial Or Metric, 11-2 Princess Of Hearts, 6-1 St Wood, 7-1 Alickottalo, 9-1 Hallmark, 14-1 Haggles, 20-1 others 1993: Poler Spart 2 8-6 R Fills 100-30 (W Haggles, 20-1 others

Ali-Royal to keep Cecil's ambitions alive

RICHARD EDMONDSON

Swirling leaves apart, there is beautiful evidence of the pattern of the seasons this afternoon. The seven races of an immature National Hunt campaign at Ascot produce just 30 runners, while a single event at Newmarket, the Burrough Green Handicap (Class D), involves

just one fewer. This is the stage of the Flat season wheo the only sound in yards around the country is the banging of stable doors. The ground is good, the finishing line is in sight, and the legions of horses who are below top class are being sent out to play. This phenomenoo makes puoting an even more devilish occupation than usual.

Evidence of this is available in the closing two handicaps at Headquarters. These missions are so complex that if you find both winners you should certainly walk home, as a ruby will

ASCOT 1.20: With so little form to analyse, any selection for this event is prob-ably best left to paddock watchers. Ex-Irish bumper horse AL HELAL is only a teotative choice.

1.55: Susan Nock warned yesterday that although Senor El Betrutti is well, he needs this race and is not certain to stay the trip. Arthur's Minstrei will have no stamina problems hut will also be short of full fitness. STRAIGHT TALK looks best of

inevitably be twinkling up from terday failed to help Cecil close the gutter. For those for whom the gap. If the Warren Place gambling has become a problem, the best options may be Artful Dane (3.45), who has form with several of his opponents, and the Newbury winner Amber Fort (4.15).
There are two Listed contests

for those who like to think of themselves as serious backers, and the main thread, as it has been for several days now, will be the battle for the trainers'

the three at the top of the handicap

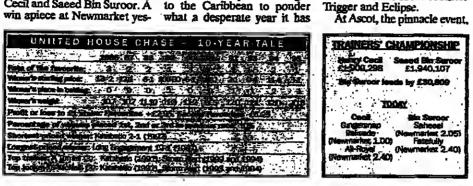
are expected to run well first time

out. Jimmy FitzGerald asserts that Uncle Ernie is in "tremendous form"

man does not score with Ali-Royal in the Ben Marshall Stakes, he might as well climb

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Straight Talk (Ascot 155) NB: Eldorado (Newmarket 3.10)

into his top-of-the-range car and Championship between Henry travel to the airport for a flight to the Caribbean to ponder



gest Big Matt, too, is ready for this. But on fast ground, STORM ALERT has the best credentials, having won HYPERION'S this event in both 1993 and 1994. WETHERBY

2.20: Bertone, having had two runs already this season, would seem to have a fitness advantage over his main rival HULL OF TULLOW. However, the latter is a classier an-imal and put up an excellent performance when winning first time out at Chepstow 12 months ago. while reports from Lambourn sug- 2.50: A tricky contest in which

year-old has proven form in Grade One staying races and looks best of the Irish-trained pair, 3.25: ONE MAN is taken on by three smart rivals but should still win.

4.00: Kerawi made an impressive de but at Newbury last week but BEL-LATOR has apparently been

The dashing grey One Man (3.25) reappears at Wetherby and is reported in spiffing form by his trainer. Gordon Richards. Trainglot will enjoy the sound surface. But Mouse Morris has sent over WHAT A QUESTION and this eight-NEWMARKET 2.40: CENTRE STALLS, who had

Handicap Chase, features Big

Matt and Slorm Alert, who

ran in the race last year. At these

weights the latter is preferred.

has also had good days here,

should take care of both of

considered for the previous en-

counter as he gained two of his

three wins last season at this

track. The seven-year-old will

employ the same tactics that the

hare does around dog tracks.

cial Artist, who is liable to

whingy the equine version of

-stuff this for a game of sol-

diers, having refused on his first

two outings last year. In the cir-

(nap 1.55), who has had the ben-

efit of a race this season, must

have an outstanding chance.

Less keen may be Commer-

Senor El Betrutti, one of

improved with every run until flop-ping in France last time, can return to form at the expense of Henry Ce-cil's representative, All-Royal. 3.10: Barry Hills's horses remain in sparkling form and his MY VALENTINA should appreciate the step up in distance after an emphatic low success last time.

You can get 14-1 about the gelding for the Gold Cup and that will almost certainly contract after this afternoon's venture as

though Uncle Ernie (2.30), who of the last three seasons. As Barton Bank tends to have the effect of a grenade on at least one fence in each round, the one for the forecast may be the day's dashing grevs, will be Young Hustler.

he has won on his debut in each

Less predictable is the iden-tity of One Man's jockey. Richard Dunwoody is expected to take the ride, but the Irishman again missed mounts vesterday as a consequence of the food poisoning he contracted earlier in the week.

Durwoody should be back though - just as Danoli proved he was wheo winning on his chasing debut at Clonmel yescumstances, STRAIGHT TALK terday. The former invalid's doddle round persuaded Roh Hartnett of Coral to go 20-1 from 33-1 about Tom Foley's charge for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, which must meao, for the first time ever, that I April fails before the Festival.

> in a race over this track and trip a fortnight ago, Hawksley Hill, High Premium and Artful Dane, but the progressive and well-drawn ASHBY HILL is just preferred.

4.15: Mud-lover Charlie Sillett is up BLEENEEZE are uninspiring bu this outsider could repay each-way 3.45: It should be close again be-tween the three who filled the places winning handicap mark. support now that he's supped to

only 3lb after success from a poor draw at Chepstow last time. But to day's less lesting surface may thwart him. Form figures for KNOB-

ASCOT

12.50 Squire's Occasion 1.20 Al Helal 1.55 Straight Talk 2.30 Storm Alert

3.05 Tap On Tootsie 3.40 Strong Promise 4.10 Charming Girl

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in places).

Right-hand course with stiff lences; testing uphill firish.

Course is nr junction of A329 and A330, Seaton adjoins course, ADMISSION: Members 16:2 (Junior Members 16:25) years, buf price); Grandstand & Paddock £10; Silver Ring S3, CAR PARK: No's 1, 2 & 3 54, remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH ECONNERS; M Pipe - 15 winners from 68 runners given a success ratio of 32.1% and a profit to a 51 level stake of 511.72; N Twistom-Davies - 15 winners, 52 runners, 13.3%, +516.21; J Gifford - 14 winners, 1 10 runners, 12.7%, 436.26; O Sharwood - 13 winners, 54 runners, 24.1%, 45.147.

ELRADING JOCKETS: J Oebonee - 30 wins, 103 rides, 23.1%, +542.83; E Dunwoody - 16 wins, 102 rides, 15.7%, 446.61; A Magnire - 14 wins, 74 rides, 18.9%, 512.34; M A Fitzgerald - 13 wins, 67 rides, 19.4%, +521.58.

ELINERERD FIRST Time: None.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Strong Promise (3.40) wan at Cheltenburn last transfer.

HYPERION

Tuesday.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Unclearnie (2.30) has been Sent 224 miles by J Piz-Gerahl from Norton, N Yorks: Tap Ou Tootsie (3.05) sent 142 miles by T Wall from Church Stretton, Shrupshire; Ernest William (1.20) and Strong Pressive (3.40) sent 122 miles by G Hubbard from Workingsworth, Suffolk.

12.50 BINFIELD JUVENILE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 370 2m 110yds Penalty Value £4,175

1	_20	(CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Val	1
		ue £3,469	
1	6-	AL HELAL (162) (Mes J I Welson) J Jankos 4 11 (1	C
2	00-F	ERNEST WILLIAM (22) (G A Hubbard) G Hubbard 4 11 0 K Gould	P
3	35-	PADONG CROP (214) (The Barrow Boys) M Henderson 8 11 0: M A Fituge	ď
4 .		SAHEL (Pipers Partnersho) J Mulins 8 11 0	
S	0/40-	CIPRIANT QUEEN (294) (for Royal Racing Club) J Gillord 8 10 9	М

BETTING: 7-4 Ridge Crop. 5-2 Cinring! Ossen, 5-1 Sahat, 8-1 Al Hebs, 8-1 Franct William, 10-1 Un-1995: Speedwell Prince S 11 4 C Maude 6-1 (N Tresson-Davies) 11 fbn

1990: Speedwell Prince S.11. 4 C Mande 6-1, (in *recon-Dawes) 11 mm
FORM GLIDE
This side is well below Ascall standards and others RIDDING CROP an however-sent opportunity to get off the
mark over hundles at the first time of asking. He put in a most encouraging first nur when bettern in a legit
brists by St Mellion Drive and Euphone Busson for a NH Flat race or good to soft ground at Notingtarn last
December and it was presumably this four-month break either than the firster going why he was well below
that at Folkestone in April, Clarksel Queen histor) been rished and should have a fair amount of scope. that at Folkestows in April. Cliptical Queen harm't been nushed and should have a fee amount of scope.

Her two cusings last session were in much stronger company then this end there was enough in her fourth
of 21 behind hiters Wather in a makes' hundle on soil, ground at Worcester in Nourchibe to make her a serous contender in this grade, Emeett William was well there unto failing at halway at Huntrigion (2mA)
on his mappearance, Further coulones is conside, but he appeared to be a unning he best does on the and
should at least be open to a fair bit of improvement. He'd have to be a danger. Salval at an eight-year-old
making his debut over hundles and has been off the course for so long that the lest person to had han wite.
Selection at Neumanted hour years ago. He was a fair handicapper on his day yet with stroly needs
to blow away several layers of cotwebs.

Selection: RIDING CROP

	1.55	BAGSHOT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 BBC1 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £8,013
1	10/881-3	COMMERCIAL ARTIST (8) (D) (Mrs Devid Thompson) N Gazelee 10 12 0
2		SENOR EL BETRUTTI (189) (C) (Gerard Nock) Mrs Sasan Nock 7 11 7 G Bradley
3	04421-2	STRAIGHT TALK (27) (CD) (BF) (Mrs C A Poterson) P Nichols 9 11 2
4		ARTHUR'S MINISTREE. (196) (D) (Bernard Historical) O Nicholson 9 10 11
5	BF461-4	GO BALLISTIC (7) (GD) (Ars. B.) Lockheld J. O'Shen 7 10.3

BETTING: 2-1, Straight Talk, 11-4 Arthur's Minstrel, 7-2 Consponded Artist, 5-1 Senor El Betrutti, 11-2 Go Brandic, 1995: Straight Talk 8 10 O A P McCoy 15-8 (P Nicholts) 4 ran

"ISSCS Straight (as a 30 U A P MOLO) 12-3 (F minimize) 4 pain
"Form MBBE

The transition from nucling to change hasn't been a smooth one for Go Bellindie, but it looked as if the
peury had finally dropped when he par out a very easy wanter of a velucitic nonce charse here in April, Cro
Bellistot Gross of the same mark and pould be a step of the pats in it does round – he a stay 1350 of the
pane kingths he finished belind Second El Betruttl over half a mile less here in Decomber, A record placethe pace be goes and a second successive well in the race is more than a possibility for Paul Nichalir's nineyear-old. This is a more competence race than when Straight Talk begt Wilstond 12 months, He's size gone
up 13.0b, but that lea's no bad in view of the progress he has made, A Sandown and Warwack winner since
than and also a close fourth at Antarea, he gan a cracker on his operang outing this session when just faining to see off Big Ben Dun at a difference of 250 at Kempton last month and is going to be difficult to peg
back. Serar B Rearins improved quite a bit after fox fast win here, besting a flocient field at Sandown in
Fohnsey in authlion to upsetting Dall it. A Day over the course (2m4t) at April. This is only his second season over fences, so n'ts Mely there's a fair bit of improvement to come, and his can be expected to put up
a good show. On this first, ground Arthar's Ministrel is unlikely to reproduce his good glied behind stableonate Miscorrolt Boy when the must was flying in the Scottish National.

Selections: STRWGHI TALK

2.30 UNITED HOUSE CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP BBC1

- 4 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Stoom Mert, 2-1 Hig Matt, 11-4 Uncle Ernie, 10-1 Thumbs Un.

get their 6-4 Storm Wert, 2-1 Big Marts, 11-4 Under Ernie, 10-1 Televick Op.

1995: Egypt Mill Prince 9 11 8 W Marston 3-1 Likes J Primari 8 tan

FORM GUIDE:

Big Martis main larger, at the Murphy's in a techniquit's one and he may just need this to put him not, we made his seasons larger at the Murphy's in a techniquit's one and he may STORM ALERT finished strongly in sectoral and thad respectively behind Egypt Mail Prince Storm Alert fallowed with good seconds to Storid Mail and Easthorpe free 24th) at Sandown before going off the boy. He was starting to struggle when falling from out behind Sig Main here in Torouty and clearly soft the force in was when wetting from 1993 and 1994. We fill the interior is mailtain from the larger from the first from the first were the most the stakes on the same of the first states. 1994, yet if he returns in smilar from to last year there must be every chance of term among the tables on lag Matt on no less than 23th better terms, He is also 19th better in congrered to their numeric here in Jan-uary, Made Endle also than in that race and looked a real danger turning for home orth, to weaken corning to the last. He put with the water is 5th and that looks spridicard considering his form after that. Post of Chetantham and Amboe, he wound up by winning at Forgrousse and would have been the selection had there been any rain.

Cloud Hopper, 1995: Drummond Warner 6 11 0 M A Fizigerald 11-2 (T Thomson Jones) 10 ran

3.40 STANLAKE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £4,986 1 624-121 STROMG PROMISE (4) (G A Hubbert) G Hubbert 5 11 8 1 04-3F MINOR NEY (14) (BF) (R M Elis) J Jertors 6 11 1 - 2 doclared -

BETTING: 1-8 Strong Promise, 7-1 Minor Key. 1995: Jackson Firs 7 11 2 M A Pringerick 100-30 (T Thomson Jones) 3 ran

BETTING: 9-4 Silver Bruom, 5-2 Charming Gut, 5-1 Barna Boy, 6-1 Shoofit, 7-1 Stoney Valley 1995: Admira's Well S 10 12 S Ryan 6-4 IR Alchurst) 6 ran

HYPERION 3.10 My Valentina 1.00 Silver Kristal 3.45 Ashby Hill 1.30 Summerville Wood 4.15 Knobbleeneeze 2.40 Centre Stalls

GOING: Good. STALLS: centre. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Right-hand course with im 2f straight.

Bight-hand course with im 2f straight.

Grandstand & Paddock £10 (16 to 25-year-olds £8); Grandstand & Paddock £10 (16 to 25-year-olds £8); Pamily Enclosure £3. CAR PARKI Members £1; remainder free.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Cecil— 70 winners from 236 runners gives a success ratio of 23.7% and a loss to a 51 level stake of 58.77; J Goaden — 56 winners, 385 runners, 14.7%, −553.76; E Hamson — 51 winners, 66 runners, 8.47%, −526.76; E Hamson — 51 winners, 60 runners, 8.47%, −526.76; E HEB — 38 winners, 14 runners, 12.1%, −5123.26.

ELEADING JOCKETE: Pat Eddery — 123 winners, 663 rides, 21.8%, −524.81; L Detcorl — 82 winners, 563 rides, 14.6%, −5152.73; W R Swinherm — 55 winners, 383 rides, 14.3%, −522.87; W Carson — 55 winners, 496 rides, 11.1%, −577.99.

ELINKERED FIRST TIME: Hee's Fet (1.20); Welton Americal (viscord) (3.45); Alpine Hidenway (4.15). gway (4.15).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNESS: Nalesant (3.05) has been sent 347 miles by E McKeller from Losmahagow, Strathcyde; Dreams End (3.45) sent 274 miles by P Bowen from Haverfordwest, Dyled; Quilling (4.15) sent 314 miles by M Dods from Piercebridge, Co. Durham.

1.00 EBF BALATON LODGE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO fillies 7f Penalty Value £4,143

_	APPLE BRANETY (USA) (Highdese Thoroughtned Rading 220 G Lewis 8 11.	G Hind :
	BESUME (USA) Rord Howard de Welden) W Javis 8 11	Weave
•	BLUEYEREEN (26) (Bloomsbury Stud) P Chapple-Hyart 8 11	N Day
. •	CORETTA Good Leigh L Cumani 8 11	O Lichina :
'n	DAMANKA (S) (S) R H. Burrough) M Sell S 11	id Factor :
ň	DOUBLE BORT (72) (R W Major) 8 Halls 8 11	G Duffield
•	DOYELLA (Seest Manana) O Loder 8 11	J' MicCabe (3)
E	FREE AS A BRID (11) (C Marrer) M Channon 8 11	
ð	CONCERSIVAP (T O Holland Mortin) H Cecil 8 11	Put Eddery :
	GREEN CONTRACTOR OF STATE OF S	D Harrison
_	SLACER (The Queen) Lord Huntington 8 11	G Bardwell
U	JUCINIA (13) BAS SECRITO WASHING TO THE CALL OF THE CA	A Clark
	LA CURPANALAL (Court Federeo Zichy-Trysser) G Wrate 8 11	K Dedey :
	MARCOLLA (Arros Christodoubio M Stoute 8 11	
	MONTH OF COST CARDINI BESIDENCE & CROSCO O 12 COST	G Certer
	NIGHT SCEPTRE (Sceptre Racing (1)) R Armstrong 8 11	_ D Serith (3)
	MURRE E () Hanson; B Has 8 11	
	PALISADE (USA) (K Abdulieh) H Cecil 8 11	W Ryon :
	PORTELLE Unitions High A High 8 11	_A McGione 1
	REBECCA SHARP (A E Opportunities) G Wage 8 11	###s 2
	RUSSIAN OLIVE (Lord Carramon) L Curran 8 11	Fortune :
_	SEATTLE SHANG (20) (Cheroley Park Study J Gooden 8 11	Canol:
9	SHARKYAH (Hander A Maleouri) R Amatrong 8 11	R Hills
	SALVER ARRESTAL (56) (Sir Dic Parker) R Alestusi 8 11	T Quirm :
3	SHARK WESTER TOOL ISLE SIX LONG. IN VIOLATION OF THE PARTY OF THE PART	D R McCabe
	ST BLANE (CAN) (Ms Virginia Kest Payson) O Loder 8 11	
	-24 declared -	

-		SELVER ARRESTAL (56) (Sir Sto Patier) R Alebura 8 11
23	3	SELVEN ARBITAL (DA) (Selvente Para Para Para Para Para Para Para Par
74		
		-24 Section -
眍	THE 5-2	Cingrescop, 6-1 Mercelo, 7-1 St Blaine, 8-1 Silver Kristal, Palisude, 10-1 Marcello
200	min. 12-1	others
195	15: A ugam	r 2 8 11 R HS 2-1 U Gosden; 33 Mn
		NGK SPARK PLUGS SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000
ΓĀ	20	NGK SPARK PLUGS SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) ESPAN
L		
_	~~~	DESCRIPTION OF METERS MAN AN ATTACHED Dictor Partnership) Betty 9 (2
ı		
2		
3	303065	DON'T FOOL ME (34) (P M Mooney) P Mooney 8 12 5 Septem 21
6		
5	0	DOUBLE-O (15) IR K Bits Ligh W layer 8 11 5 Standard 14
8	66330	HALLMARK (12) (D 8 Galop) R Hannon S 11 Dente Office 18
7	0500	HALLIMONO (22) DI SERBOJN PERMITTO S. II. Debett 7 HERSING (22) Charles Egiston) C Egiston 8.11 I. Debett 7 HERSING (22) Charles Egiston) C Egiston 8.11 II. Debett November 8.11 III. Debett November 8.11 III. Pat Editory 6.11
3	000	MELLWOOD (54) (Mark Tomptons Rocing) M Tomptons & 11
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io.		
ũ	00	
2		SAN'S YER MAN (18) (MSS E.) TOOL O THIS IS O L. G Corber 16 ZAFARELLI (Miss L.) Went) S Williams 8 11
3	200220	
Ä	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	PROCESS OF REACTS (2) (A.S. Noted & Research & S
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9 80	0.13	
ŗ.		SAMELIA THEOREE (D.& L. Regne) D. Monte 8.6
ä	0	SAMELIA THINGLE (D & L Recing) D Motors & 6

2.05 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,650 added 6f Penalty Value £4,802

- 8 declared - BETTING: 5-2 How Long, 8-1 Sahecel, 7-2 Yasard, 8-2 Volley, 8-1 Unshakan, 12-1 Agnella, 20-1 oth-

ers 1895: Eishabiba 2 8 5 T Qurin 4-6 (J Dunlog) 6 ran 2.40 BEN MARSHALL STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed) £17,000 C4 added 1m Penalty Value £11,169

BETTAND: 11-4 Fatefully, 3-1 All-Royal, 7-2 My Branch, 8-1 Centre Stalls, 7-1 Celestial Key, 10-1

BETTRIR: 11.4 Francisty, 3-1 All-Royal, 7-2 My Branch, 8-1 Centre Stalls, 7-1 Calestell Key, 10-1 Cool Bige, 12-1 others;
1995: Calestell Key S 8 12 P Robinson 25-1 (M Johnston) 7 ran
1995: Calestell Key S 8 12 P Robinson 25-1 (M Johnston) 7 ran
1995: Calestell Key S 8 12 P Robinson 25-1 (M Johnston) 7 ran
1997: Sandown and Ascot (two). Both the Berkstire back vectones were in Listed company. She san carry on the good work though it will be tough with All-Royal and My Branch taking her on, All-Royal, edger good seconds to Ruzriema at York (Listed) and to Kammparra at Concesser, stammed Miljo a dozen longths at Bath and meets this rive 310 better. My Branch, who made the frame in the 1000 Gumens and the insh equivalent, scored in style at Concesser, inshed a four-length fourth behind Chemwood Power in the Challenge Stales over seven here last time. Centre Stalls, unplaced against Albastin at Langchamp (Group Two) after wins at Sandown and Mempton, could also pose a threat.

Selection: FATER/ILLY

3.10 ZETLAND STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed) £14,000 C4

Mark Johnson, successful in the with with Double Tagger (1993) and Double Eclipse (1994), can again do the trick, this time we ELDORADO, who like that pan, is by Ela-Mane-Mou. My selection, who sports the Double Tagger siles of Ron Huggins, comes here as the winner of his single start to date over this destance at Bath on 30 September, staying on strongly after getting behind early. These is clearly better still to come from Eldorado and he satisfung form at Pontefract and might be the one to cause most trouble. Bold Words is on a bat-trick after vectories in a Salesbury matiden and a nursery here, both over a mile, he should have no trouble in getting the error two furlongs but has to concede waight all round. Shadow Lead landed an auction meiden of Chepsow in July and was not discredited in running fourth to Reviews in the Acomb over seven at York. He represents Lice Cuman, who won this with Bonny Soot (1991). With Bary Hills' youngsters in fine form, a good zun can be expected from My Valentine. Attentic Doelro, a stablemate of Eldorado, had Misster Plint a length and a quarter actiff when going under a head to Windsor Castle over this journey at Leicester. Selections ELDORADO

3.45 LADBROKE AUTUMN HANDICAP (CLASS C) C4 £40,000 added 1m Penalty Value £22,900 237301. PRINCE BARAR (21) (D) (Size W Princerd-Gordon) J Banks 5 10 0 R Mallen (7) 31.
241020 KATYEE (28) (D) J J H Richmond-Wasson) 8 Harmond 78 13 A Clork 34.
245-000 COMMISSIAN (5) (Distin Michaemed) J Gostein 3 8 10 L Debto 44.
245-000 COMMISSIAN (5) (Distin Michaemed) J Gostein 3 8 10 L Debto 44.
245-251 HAMMISSIAN (5) (Distins Richmend J Gostein 3 8 10 L Debto 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (5) (Distins Richmend J Gostein 3 8 10 L Debto 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (5) (Distins Richmend J Richmend 3 9 4 L Debto 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Mis J Ramaden 3 9 4 L T Quiden 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Mis J Ramaden 3 9 4 L T Quiden 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Mis J Ramaden 3 9 2 L T Quiden 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Mis J Ramaden 3 9 2 L T Quiden 15.
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252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Mis J Ramaden 3 9 2 L T Quiden 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Hammissian Mis J Ramaden 15.
252-252 HAMMISSIAN (40) (CD) (Hamach Alexander) Hammis

This is virtually a re-run of a race over course and distance a formight ago when Hawkisley HMI, fifth from a baid draw in the Cambridgeshire, got home by a tength and a half and a length from High Premium and Arthul Debe, with Sendandor Chambray soch and WRH-STON a five-and-a-half-length eighth of 27. Winston did not get the best of runs that day and, with advantages of between 1th and 2th, can turn around latest running while he can confirm the form with Selfera, Gladys Athorpe, Castch The Lights and Flytig North, who all dished in arrears. Winston was a senter at Nottingham and Newcaste early in the season and also ran well when third behind Hamlet at the latter track and when beaten by Fahlm in a field of 20 on the July Course here. Delta Solell looked set for an early success after his good run in the Lunchin, Behind Princes Bahar (thirth and Raywee tseverith) in the Victoria Cup, he followed with a fourth tro II Nod at Doncaster 17th after looking the winner a furling out. He was reappearing after a five-morth break when severth of 22 behind Mezzanonite over seven furlioning is of this source. His could be in the shake-up even if the card running is not in his fatiour. Ashiby Hill regions her form well and was recording her fifth success of the season when a couple of lengths too good for From De Cool in an 18-numer race at Salebury last time.

4.15 BURROUGH GREEN HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 C4

1		CHANGE 20151 (TT) (N) (10.0 2450 9 482 4 10 3"	
2	502000	SUALITACH (27) (D) (Noci Sweeney) R Holinshead 3 9 13	
3	031401	PERSIAN FATRE (31) (D) (Murray Crubb) J Berry 4 9 13	K Darley 5
4	310026	BROUGHTON'S TURNOUL (I.A) (CO) (Broughton/Hestwood) W Marson ?	911 DB McCabe 3
s	220000	TREST (27) (D) (Ms C Robinson) M Johnson J 9 11	
6		MO EXTRAS (45) (K Higson) G I Moore 69 11	
7		MOUNTBATE (25) (CD) U F Coupland) M Besty 4 9 9	
8	313003	STOPPES BROW (11) (D) (C J Pernick) G L Moore 499	S Whitners 15 V
9	032561	ALPINE HIDEAMAY (19) (D) (Ats Many Brester 8 Hambury 3 9 9	Stack 18 B
10	102231	AMBER FORT (9) (D) (Caledonian Racing Scores) 0 Esworth 3 9 8.	_D Griffiths (5) 27 V
11	3-240 10	RUNY (37) (Hamdan Al Maktourn) C J Benstead 3 9 8	R His 11
12		BARREL OF HOPE (5) (D) (Peter J Kratson) J L Eyre 4 9 7	
13	2-00000	AL REET (1AT) (The Germa Partnership 4) M Hammong 5 9 7	Fortune 26
14		DEERDA'S DART (25) (D) (Peter Wings) P Makes 3 9 6	
15	101003	QUILLEGS (4) (D) (A G Watson) M Dods 4 9 6	
10	2000	DOUBLE MARCH (5) (Mrs P Scott Durm) P Webber 3 9 5	R P#**YB 8
17	040000	KONDONETENEEZE (5) (ID) (Anatomy Andrews) M Chammon 6 9 4	
18	(00001-6	JIBEREEN (212) (D) (Peter Shaton) P Howarg 4 9 4	
19		MARISTAX (12) (D) (T G Warren P Maion 39 3	
20	013-000	BEN GUNN (S) (CC) (Michael White! P Watern J 9 1	Carrol 16
21	513304	MPLESIVE AIR (14) (D) IT A Scotterni E Waynes 48 13.	J Quina 6
22		CLASSIC BEAUTY (31) (Classic Bloodstock Pic; R Harris 3 & 12	
23	163500	WINSOME WOOSTER (9) (D) (Mess Amarica) Romeing) P (Aught, S 9	9 \$ Drovice 28
24	600040	EUPRYLLIA 68) (DI si G Vaustani Bob Jones 4 7 11	F Norten 6
25	01P005	BROUGHTON'S PRIDE (21) (Mrs. Janet Maris: 11, Essa 5 7 10	T Williams 1
26		DEDLANDA (10) (P.) Lawtoni J.L. Eyre S. 7.10	
27	001000	BOWCLEFE (SB) (Philip Daves) Mrs A Navighton 5 7 10	N Adams 10
28	43-6000	CHEZ HEIGHTS (9) (CD) (B T Azenborough) G Balang 6 7 10	N Varley (3) 7 Y
29	415054	BALLARD LADY (5) (D) (Mrs PWale) J Womeners 4 ? 10	I, Chaprack 23
_		- 29 declared -	
Min	mum weig	nc 7st 10th. True hundicap weights: Broughton's Price 1st 5th, It Ja	rva 75 St. Steat fil
200	70 00 4	lakence Tes Fib. Rolland I arts Tes Film	-

7g 7D, Chil Heights 7g Stb, Balkoff Lath 7s Stb.
BETTING: 7-1 Amber Fort, 8-1 Quilling, 10-1 Persion Foyre, Cherile Stiert, 12-1 Alpine Hidemary,
Broughtons Terrack, Impulsive Ak, Overar's Dart, 14-1 others.
1996: Moungare 3 9 7 1 F Egin 14-1 (M P Bello) 18 mm.
FORM GUIDE
Winner of two of his last times races in 1995, CHARLIE SILLETY's clearly an autumn horse

Winner of two of his last times races in 1995, CHARLES SILLET's clearly an alcumin horse and ginned a beliefed first success of the current comparign when defeating Concainer a head in a field of 20 over oar furiongs at Chepstow 11 days ago. Berny Hills' number is on 10st 3to but tooks the type who can carry big weights and goes off only a 3to higher mark than toot time. Charles Sibeth has won over this extra turiong and can confirm facts from with the third, Stoppes Brow, who was beaten more than a length and has a 4to advantage. Amber Fort could trouble the best of these, houng gained a declare win in a 28-number race of Newson through the letter of the created Sto but should again toke care of Winnerome With takenthi and Chill Heights, Knobbleeneeze, Barrel Of Hope and Deuble March, who were way down the field. Amber Fort had Charle Silect behand when third of 22 to Mezzanotic here a formum ago but Charle Silect appears in the without enough since to reverte that to the state of the same of th

WETHERBY

12.50 L'Equipe 2.50 What A Question 1.20 Random Harvest 3.25 One Man 1.50 Direct Route 4.00 Bollator 2.20 HILL OF TULLOW (nap)

Edition Cooks

Left-hand oval careat. Run-in of Cobbab alightly inshift.

Course as NE of town on BELL'I turn junction of LOS and Al-AlMIESSION: Class

5.12 [accompanied makes (to free); Talli mails 57, Course 5.2 pages metastry; up to 1.

ELECTRIC TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley — 16 winners from 100 runners gave a secress ratio of 20.1% and a loss to a 51 level stake of 57 00.6 Richards — 26 winners, 101 runners, 23 tos. -57 07; D Nicholson — 10 winners, 15 reacters 15.1%, -5.17 (to 3 Finalestic — 1) winners, 91 runners, 15 reacters 15.2%, -5.17 (to 3 Finalestic — 1) winners, 91 runners, 15 reacters 15 reacters 15 winners, 150 rules, 150 rules

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None LONG-DISTANCE SUNKERS: Stately Home (2.20) has been sent 2 to unless by P Romer from Haverkorkurs, Defect, Bellinge (100) sent 223 males by G Rakhing from Paladalation... Bewer Golf Diamond (4.00) sent 220 males by T 3 Nanghian from Epours, Survey

		supposed 14 141 to 10 St., may 10) 1 & legibres (light Platest Miss.
[2.50	BOLTON PERCY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,500 added 2m Penalty Value £4,159
: 1	5000-12	MITHRAIC (E) (D) (C P M Racing) Vs Currengtum 3 11 4
1.7	P5C13-2	SAMAND (84) (D) (87) Attayrish Construction (a): Merc L (about 4: 1.4 C Mande
3	2120	BON CRUACHAN (198) (Calathonon loon) than 1 M left man (- 11) C O'Dayar
ī	48.50	BLANC SCRIB GRO (221 (15 Secret 1 Carry 2 11 0 Mr S Search &
5		B THE ONE (201) (Andrew Page and Mr Arts Pulget!) Craim 5 1! F Dored Dome
6		CLEVER BOY (302) Was M.S. Curror J.Com. 5 11 0 Floring (3
•	1200	DON'T FORCET CURTES (238) (Incoming Curte Platforms) G.M. Moore 4 11 C & Bandley
ġ		DURANO (7) I'M Store (1 Easter 5 11 0
ā		DEDOWNER REGISES MENT - 110 G Canil 13
19	0040	PORSES (14) (Abs M W Bed) 1 H Layreon 5 11 U A S Smith
1		HOPEFUL LORD P Tiles P Creesbruigh 4 12 0 Wr S P Honnager (7)
3	5556-0	LAST TRY (6) H 1 Narrabard B Rathert 1-110
13	2000	PEQUIPE (546) Mercel H Watti U Marin L ET () E Dissectory
14	5677	PENEROSE LAD (NZ) (197) AMS C N Recollectes () Nestocian (1.11) A Magaira
15	14 12	QUEEN OF SPADES (384) illes R Vaughore in Targeton Rose - 6 (d. 1) C. Useranjan
73	1412	~ 10 declared -

EXTENS: 9-4 Quant Of Spaces, 11-4 Paragra Ltd, 6-1 Durano, 8-1 L'Equipe, 10-1 Métaric, Serion d 12-1 Endowment, B The One, 16-1 others

1	Taket Official footbar a Trior Figure Con No. u.S. estand. of the
	1.20 ARTHUR STEPHENSON NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £4,590
	1 476121 POTTER'S BAY (176) (Abs.) [Poten Dillotheam . 11.10
1	2 122624 RYE CROSSING (215) ICH Stewns Eastern, 6 15 1
1	3 5426 RANDOM HARVEST (273) of C Guckey Mr. M Royan 7 (0 1) R Districtory
	1 20234 5 COOL WEATHER (17) PREDOTRATA P Development 8 10 5 A S South
	5 F22F52 CRUNDON (188) Nest C Toxos Mrs t Toxos : 1u 2 G Coton B
	6 04562-4 FINAL BEAT (30) Als M.E. Curtis I Curtis I TO E
	1 45400-3 CAMP BANK (30) (Mrs. J. Mayadi N. Tarden Dours to 1010 Cite-offer
	8 335034 TICO GOLD (229) (Mas S J Turner P Oceator of H 10 0 G Cahill (In
	9 ATSSU-0 THEYDON PRIDE (SA) (A F Chambuck) A Currentuck (100)
	- 9 dectared -
i	Mary removes got 10st True hands an engage. Two Gots 3is 10st Providen Plate for the
1	DETERMS & C. Potter's Ray 7.1 Due Conselled 5.1 Dearton Names 7.1 Come Deat 10.1 Too.

BETTING: 9-4 Potter's Bay, 3-1 Rye Gold, 12-1 Final Beat, 14-1 others

1995; Grome's Tycom 9 Lt - A Magure 11-7 U H Johnson 5 ron 150 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,250 added 2m Penalty Value £3,711

SETTIME: 2-1 Direct Route, 3.1-4 Cumbrian Chellenge, 4-1 Desert Fighter, 9-2 Kaitak, 6-1 Fourth 1995: Down The Fell & 10 5 A Magure 11-2 U H Johnson: 5 rpn

in time
1995: Down The Fed & 10.5 A Magune 11.2 of Hildmann 5 run
FORM GUIDE

Desert Fighter had a limites advantage over DURECT ROUTE when warming even course
and distance less month, having been racing on the Flat. Many Reviving is two year-old had
brect Route about seven lengths back in fourth but there must be every chance that have an
Johnson's runner can reverse the placings on 6th better terms. He began last serving win
hing bumpers and novec handles at Africaethingth and helps before running within handloap company. Direct Route had Kaltak well behind when runner-up to Sunce at According April and falled by just a head against Clientage at Keiso on his final start at Many. He
is just 2th higher now, Katak's Ascord run was not his too from and he bounced bash on
his final start when third to Trage Hero in the Swinton Handdop Hurdle at Haydock (Fourth
in Line 12th of 19). He should be reasonably straight having run twice in the flat in the
summer, Cambrian Challenge, who proved a smart notice chaser tast season, was well
beaten over hurdles at Kempton on his return but will sinp fitter now.

Selection: DIRECT ROUTS

220 PETERHOUSE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C4 B) £10,000 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £6,710

PETTING: 10-11 Hill Of Tullow, 5-2 Hertone, 9-2 Jon White, 8-1 Stately Home

FORM GUIDE.

FORM GUIDE

FORM Notice Chase the following month. A disappointment on his final start in the Mildmay Notice Chase at Antree won by Addington Boy. Hit Of Tullow may have been unstated by the Noise Chese the following month: A deappointment on his final start in the Midding Noise. Chase at Anthee won by Addington Boy, Hill Of Tultow may have been unsuted by the fissish ground then and centamy some rism now would aid his chance, but he is sail a good prospect and can outdess these mals. Bentone tooks to have addingent weight noise rither his close second to General Caccillent the Chansma Gold Cup at Nempton - he 120b higher than when beating Micherado tour lengths on his return at Uttoreter. Stately Home will find this fruch begine than the races he has been writing during the summer. He is a pound lower than when short-headed by Esstem Magic at Stanford List month but writter and third were both racing from out of the handscab. Joe White won the Actin Hughes Memoral over the National lenders at Antibee on his final start when a stone out of the handscap and it will be a surprise if he is good enough off a mark-5b higher sail.

Selections HILL OF TULLOW.

2.50 TOTE WEST YORKSHIRE HURDLE (CLASS A) C4
(Grade 2) £20,000 3m 1f Penalty Value £12,500

EFTING: 5-4 What A Question, 5-2 Trainglot, 9-2 Difficult Times, 10-1 Our Kits, Treasure Again, 10-1 Nor Vistage, 25-1 Past Master 1995: Cob On Targe 9-11 T P Mines 8-11 (Mrs M Review) 4 min FORM GUIDE.

R can pay to overlock WHAT A QUESTION'S poor run at Number 1 was bestien two shall be for a handcap hundle or which fellow insh raider Difficult Times was bestien two shall be half lengths by Jone Dight, Mouse Mome's many had shown the retains all net above well on previous visits to this country and appreciates pood ground. She won the movement handcap hundle at Antitien in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min will when carming 10-2 in 1995 and argain min at the mines of the production of the prod difficult to beat in recept of weight from all her male. Difficult Times has proved mo-consistent in Ireland this year but is unother to meet What A Question on 1989 was a terms compared to their latest meeting. Trainglet is the obvious number. His north in the describerth was no disgrade and the digitally well to win there whicher hardles late sed son, scoring by a head from Treasure Again in the Condition at Chellerhand or the text of them, the mosts Treasure Again 7th better rodsy. List mentity Market Rasen marks

3.25 CHARLE HALL CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 2) C4

4 507550 YOUNG MUSTLER (189) (0) (0) (0) (0) the MacCon Pauce 9 11.1 C stands—4 declared—
BETTING: 8-11 One Man, 3-1 Scotton Benies, 4-1 Berton Bank, 8-1 Young Heatler
1995; Barton Bank 9 11.2 A Knopre 8 15. (0) Nebrosan 3 con
PORM GUIDE

Barton Bank won this in 1993, felt (depited of the Imperiod Aten Young Mustler Linde); the proce the following year, but best trust mad seven lengths that senson. Cauton Bank was getting Bib last year but this year mint concede that much to Young Michael Bank and Scotton Banks on the Sold, however, it will be investing to see 1 Young the Linde Bank and Scotton Banks on the Sold, however, it will be investing to see 1 Young on both Young Mustler and Banton Bank in the Ming Coorie of Schotton in Jahary, and will see the bestfer locker of in the same form (Rechards reports to "howford history," on 3 or to be bestfer today of in the same form (Rechards reports to "howford history," on 3 rect be bester folder in the same form (Rectards reports to "borded internation of a recedence gallop at Newcastle last week). His subsequent defect in the Gold Cub was surely due to something other than lack of stomina, so quocky did to stop betaven the last two fences. Scotten Banks beat Benton Bank 15 tempte in the Martell Cup at Artifect before being patied up in the Whitmood (Barton Bank sex with and Young Hartier north). He could be the one to give One Man most to do it in similar from the Authorit, but Young Hostler can prove the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice in recyclic did historic through the sharper and he is the lovecter choice.

4.00 WENSLEYDALE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS A) C4
(Grade 2) £15,000 3YO 2m Penalty Value £9,690

LAGAN was very ordinary on the Flat out proved a different proposition when put over list-des. jumping well and making all to bept Falcon's Flame his lengths in 3.19-runner cachor course and desance, with Jackson Park lifth and Phandom Denoce severith. He can win again. Kerawi did not race on the Flat but that did not preven him from making a winning debut at Northury recently, bealing Le Teteu a sength and a holf, and he has an obselus chance. Prelade To Fame looked good when wiming at Carrier on his harding bow but bound the ciptu-kength runner-up, Go-Go-Porcet-Ronger, reversing the form at Sedgeheld lost time. That sit represents good juvense form - Hobbs. Chokes, find as Sedgeheld, won at Horhom last mursh, Remard Durawoody opperas to preter Heyer Golf Dienmond, who had o big weight when lought to Contosser in a Tauriton claiming hurdle last time, to Jaminy FracGetold's Stx Clerks, a maxien on the Flat. Kernol, successful at Market Rasen and Kolso, Jaces a much softer task in this company. A before during strough to hording debutant Bellator, much the best of these on the Flot and in good form in recent weeks.

Selection: LAGAN

HIV-infected

Morrison makes

'no risk' return

Boxing

GLYN LEACH

reports from Tokya

comeback bout.

Tomorrow's promotion here in Tokyo, headlined by George

controversy. The indications

are that some Japanese did

not realise Morrison's predica-

ment at first. Morrison has he-

show for the local media, who

have turned out in force to ques-

tion him oo Aids-related issues.

involved in this event."

Llanelli fired by the old romance

Financial uncertainty, two missing New Zealanders and an injury list so long that Stradey Park may soon be awarded National Health Trust status. Just at the moment, the rughy romantics of Llanelli are finding it difficult to escape the mundane practicalities of life.

The Scarlet faithful have constructed an entire rugby folklore around the red-shirted legends of their colourful and otten glorious past.

For 80 minutes this afternoon, however, the old dreams will come alive once again. The Welshmen are at Leicester for a do-or-die game in Pool B of the Heineken European Cup, where a point will give them a precious place in the knock-out phase of a competition that is becoming more compelling by the day. It is a hig occasion and in Llanelli, hig occasions are what makes life

Now that their season-long casualty crisis has forced them to field the injured flanker Paul Morris as a desperation measure against Dean Richards' mighty pack today, some 3,000 travelling supporters will be anticipating another memorahle display of backs-to-the-

Ah, the great men of yesteryear - Carwyn, Delme, JJ, Grav. Benny. Somehow, the name arrived at Stradey last month

Very tight indeed. The most competi-tive group of the four will go down to the wire, with points difference the cru-cial factor. Bath, the Engish champions,

can still win the pool and so guaran-

can still win the pool and so guaran-tee themselves a home quarter-final, but their only priority in haly this after-noon will be to beat an awaward Tre-uso side who still have a mathematical chance, albeit a sim one, of staying in the tournament. Dax have home ad-vantage against Pontypriori and a de-crease defeative will locate the Metehanor

cisive victory will leave the Welshmen

Leicester's outstanding victory over the hard men of Pau in France last week-end guaranteed them a place in the last eight and Lianett, who need a point at Welford Road to book their own place

in the knock-out phase, will be hoping the Tigers relax a touch too much this afternoon. Defeat for the Welsh side will leave them warring annously for news from Dublin where Pau, with a superior points difference, must be at least the flager than their rain customer.

S Borders.....4 1 0 3 80 178

The European Cup: how they stand

Chris Hewett on the final pool matches

in rugby union's European Cup

Rupert Henry St John Barker Moon does not sit easily in the pantheon, but if anyone can generate the right sort of fever amongst the Scarlets in the inhospitable surroundings of Welford Road, it is their muchtravelled, much-hattered but irrepressible scrum-half.

We've been building for this one for the last two weeks, ever since it became clear that we would need a result to reach the last eight," said Moon, a good Midlands lad from Birmingham who once captained Richards and sundry other Tigers at divisional level and won England B honours before switching allegiance to play 18 times for Wales.

"It's all on today, isn't it? We've got terrible injury prob-lems at the moment, but with Ieuan Evans and Wayne Proctor back in the side we're in there with a shout. It's the sort of game that tends to bring our the best in us."

Moon is carefully constructing a ocw half-back partnership with Frano Botica, the former New Zealand outside-half who

The clearest-cut of the groups. Brive are already in the last eight, but need to beat a dangerous Ulster side in Belfast to secure a home the - a task not eased by the fact that Dens McBinde and company still have a long shot at qualification themselves. Sodly for them, they need Harlequins to stip up at home against Caledona, who look a safe bet for a whitewash despite ther ability to score handsomely against quality opposition. Quris need Sinve to look to bose today if they are to avoid a filethy

lose today if they are to avoid a likely last eight trip to Leicester.

It's winner-take-all at Les Sept-Deniers where Toulouse, still trying to put their world back on its axis after that 70-porth thicking at Wasps last week, take on the fire and fury of Munster. An Irish

on the life and truly of Minister. An instruction in France would be an cur-standing achievement but is not a re-alistic expectation. However, they need only a point to qualify and the religi-ing European champions have been struggling all season. Sady for Wagns to the control of the little is structured and

.....3 0 0 3 50 t08 0

Previous resolts: Munster 33 Milan 5; Wasps 24 Carolf 26; Corolf 48 Munster 18;

Toulouse 36 Cardiff 20; Wasps 77 louse 17; Cardiff 41 Mitan 19.

Milan 26 Toulouse 44; Munster 49 W

Today: Leidester v Ulinelli, Leinster v Pau. Today: Todoys V Munster, Milan v Wasps.

after a successful career in rugby league and a controversially brief sojourn at OrrelL

"He's some player," Moon said. "It's wonderful to see how his influence and experience are heginning to seep through the side, giving us all new confi-dence and a sense of direction. When you have someone of Franc's quality in a really important position, it works wonders for your self-belief.
"We've had an up and down

season and it's only our home form that has held us together. We no longer seem to be able to go 20 minutes down the road without falling apart [but] much of that is down to the fatigue factor caused by an injury list that forces those players still standing to take on too many matches

"I'm also aware that in the professional era there is less room for the kind of excuse I've just given. We need to start doing it away from Stradey and today is as good a time as

Botica's arrival at Llanelli should have been eased by the presence of two formidable countrymen, the prop, Steve McDowell, and the aggressive North Harbour back-row man, Richard Turner but both are still in New Zealand awaiting playng permits. There is also concern in some

Stradey quarters that the club is nowhere near as financially sound as it appeared to be at the start of the season and that, as a result, McDowell and Turner are no longer a cost-effective proposition.

The existing players are on generous salaries, however, and as Moon says, "the pride and passion are still hurning bright in the dressing-room." If the starry-eyed visiooaries are to survive against the methodical realists of the Leicester pack, they will need all that and

In Pool A, Bath are also on the road for an equally impor-tant game with Treviso in northeast Italy. Their much-criocised pack restored at least some credibility in last weekend's struggle with Dax but John Hall, the Bath team manager, has gone ahead with plans to bolster his forward strength by signing the Argentinian Federico Mendez.

The 19st hooker has been playing with Natal in South Africa's domestic Currie Cup tournament but he watched Bath inflict a record defeat on Bristol earlier this week and agreed terms after detailed discussions with Hall and representatives of Bath's millionaire hacker, Andrew Brownsword.

Hall, who said his new recruit would be available in the near future, is also thought to be interested in two locks, the Natal and Springbok Steve Atherton, and the Bristol and England squad member, Simon Shaw.



Scotland's new captain, Gregor Townsend, is an instinctive player

New role for Townsend

Scotland the brave lived up to their historic reputation yesterday by naming Gregor Townsend, their most instinctive and creative talent, as captain for next week's international against Australia at Murrayfield. writes Chris Hewett.

It is always a bold move to place the burdens of leadership on a determined individualist but the Scottish selectors believe Townsend is no longer the freethinking maverick of old.

The versatile Northampton back takes the reins from Roh Wainwright, who led the Scots to the brink of a Grand Slam last with a groin condition. Scott Hastings, the most-capped Scottish player, also came under consideration but was indicated that they might wait finally overlooked, although he until the morning of the game

Townsend was last season's vice-captain and led a Scottish XV against the Barbarians in the Dunblane Memorial match at the start of the season. . . . Gary Armstrong, his half-

back partner during last summer's tour of New Zealand said he "puts the spark into the team and leads by example." One awkward question facing

the selectors is where to play the 23-year-old. Townsend set the 1995 Five Nations' Championship alight with some virtuoso performances as outsidehalf, but he is playing regularly in the centre at club level and will have to do so against the Wallahies if the selectors insist on pick-

ing Craig Chalmers. Yesterday the Scottish camp is named in a 21-strong squad. hefore naming their line-up

and would also consider the use of tactical substitutions under a change of rules ratified by the International Board last month. scott AND SQUAD to Australia, Murry field. 9 November 92: Backs: & Armstrong (New-

Lawrence Dallaglio's fears of being called up for military service in Italy were dispelled yesterday. Dallaglio, whose father is Italian, could have been conscripted after entering the from last season's First Division country for Wasps' match against Milan today but the player has acquired a vital him from being conscripted. Americans in their line-ups, games,

announcing that he wished to box again "four or five" American states had contacted him with a view to his fighting under their jurisdiction, but that 21 others had outlawed him due

only been cut four times. There's

no way I could be described as

a bleeder. And if there's no

Morrison claimed that since

blood, there's no danger."

Foreman's World Boxing Union heavyweight title defence against Crawford Grimsley, becomes a test case for HIV in to his condition. He denied hoxing when the former World that fighting in Japan, on a show Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion Tommy Mor-rison, diagnosed HIV positive which is not recognised by the Japanese Boxing Commission, in February this year, makes a was his only realistic option, saying rather unconvincingly that he had always wanted to visit the Morrison, 27, claims he is fighting on to provide funds for his HIV children's foundation. Land of the Rising Sun. Morrison added that "some of

the best doctors in the world' But the sad possibility exists that have told him there is "absolutely here is another example of a fightno risk" to his opponent, to the fight's referee, or to spectators at er who just cannot say goodbye. Morrison, from Jay, Okla-homa, has been fighting since ringside. "Once your body's controlling the virus - which mine is the age of 13 and perhaps he - this stuff is extremely hard to does not know what else to do with his life. His presence in catch," Morrison said. Tokyo has caused considerable

Medical opinion is divided on this issue and there has been considerable criticism of Morrison, most notably from fellow victim Magic Johnson, the LA Lakers basketbail playcome something of a freak er who discovered he had contracted the virus five years also but resumed playing last year. Morrison appears to have ex-

. One thing I want to make clear is that I don't want to put perienced little difficulty in findanyone's life in danger - including an opponent for this fight. ing my own," he told a packed When the journeyman Authory press conference yesterday. "We Cooks was forced to pull out feel we have taken every suitable (wanted by the police seemingfor every crime bar the kidprecaution to protect everyone napping of Shergar), 24-year-old Marcus Rhode, a fighter with a The major fear is that Morpromising record of 15 victories, rison will be cut during the fight 15 knock-outs and one defeat, and that his blood might come into contact with others. If a cut stepped in at a moment's notice.

occurs, he will be given a one-minute "time out" for his corner to try to stop the bleeding. If they cannot, the fight will be terminated and the winner will be decided by the judges' scores up to that point in the contest.
That's the only way I'm willing to do this." Morrison said.

lethe FAT

This guy doesn't need to worry about my virus, he needs to worry about my left book trying to take his head off," Morrison said. "He's a much better standard of opponent than I planned to meet after a year's lay-off, but I'm looking forward to it - I feel healthy, everything's "But I've had 49 fights and I've fine." If only it were.

Minnows on a hiding

Baskethall

RICHARD TAYLOR

Upsets will be as thin on the ground as high-scoring English-men this weekend when Bud-weiser League clubs bring to bear the full weight of their Americanstacked line-ups in the first round of the Classic Cola National

Cup.
Only the top three clubs - Ware Rebels, Coventry Crusaders and Cardiff Phoenix have been permitted a tilt at the

compared with two per team in the First Division.

Sheffield Sharks visit Coventry, whose player-coach, Dip Donaldson, wishes he could use his 7ft 1in older brother James, an NBA veteran. As well as facing Sheffield's American quartet of Todd Cauthorn, Chris Finch, Voise Winters and Deon Hanes, the Crusaders will also have to deal with the 6ft Bin Roger Huggins.

The League's top two clubs, Leopards and Chester Jets, meet in the tie of the round. Chester's 94-90 overtime league entry in his passport from the Budweiser heavyweights who defeat against Leopards last Italian embassy which prevents are allowed to use up to five month was their only loss in six

TODAY Football Marches not on pools coupons: 3.0 unless

GRI VADDRALL CONFERENCE: Atmosfram v Scaptin Doct v Markat Reterring v Baternesser in Statement v Baternesser in V Intol. V Baternesser in Statement v Bater GM VALDORALL CONFERENCE: Atmocham w

Newport AFC; Dorchester v Numeators Grovesend v Ring's Tyrnt Methyl Tydii v Cheintsfort: Sithting Town v Hale-sower Town; Worcester v Salsburg, Mikhand Diklelone Beshard in Beshard Salsburg, Mikhand Diklelone Beshard in Selsahurg Biston of Grantant Corby v handley Town; Duddey v Stautindge, Paget v Worseck, Reddey in Visions of Stautindge, Paget v Worseck, Reddey in Visions of Stautindge Paget v Worseck, Reddey in Visions of Stautindge Paget v Worseck, Reddey in Visions of Stautindge in Salsburg v Handley in Forest Green; Budwingham Town v Wosen-towald; Cartist of v Hawart, Enth v Torchright; Familiam v Newport toW; Fleet v Cartist, Margary v Cartist (Margary v Worsech); Worsech v Masse Histon v Consondy v Woynmunt; Worston v Also Winney v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Turling; Writty v Crook; Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Consondy v Consondy v Consondy v Consondy, Grantan v Consondy, Stautin v Noro-tr, Denaldy v Morpholy, Biscippol Rovers v Consondy v Marchis v Consondy, Stautin v Salshira v Backey, Gastone v Lotter Branton v Hambley Athetic; Cogenhoe v Chapetower St Antheres v Deshorough, George y Marchis, Canting v Marchis, Consondy v Worsham, Caption v Sautister Autor, Ladegry v Kondatane, Rakerton v Woosbrage; Wang Soort v Sautist Consondy, Stautist Cons

THE INDEPENDENT On Monday 4th November, The Independent publishes an 8 page mid-term report on the American Football season in association with the NFL CATCH UP ON THE PROGRESS OF THE NEW YORK JETS

tower Histon v Standard: East Thurrock v Lowerstaft Tiggree v Barkingsder: Brentwood v Maldon's Standard Very Barkingsder: Brentwood v Maldon's Standard Very Barkingsder: Portion v Whitton's Bedard Uct v Synessury (2.15); Whiterlassh v BAT Sports Wardage v Brachard: Langury v Chestrans Ring, mer v Burnhum Aunded v Greenweit; Dorfring v Residing Town: Ashlord IMiddo) v Horsham: Correton v North Legit, Mangdon Uni v Epsom & Ewell: Southwick v Whitstabler: Stode Green v Thanessers Burges He v Least-heast Whiday & Caret Hassocks v Heme Bay, Sneppey v Payham: Ashlorn v Furnéss: First Tower v Godelmag & Gueston (2.05; Seetey e Goscon: Toron on v Chrochem (2.15); Termgon v Odd Dower Shortwood v Treaton; Batheford v Endalengh; Portieven v Bernerton Heast (2.15); Bridgeston v Dowlan: Membresed v Amesbury; Devices v Conschum: Membresed v Amesbury; Devices v Conschum: Batheford v Hamorodis V Homorodis V V Dowlan; Inco. Bernerton tymellon v Windom: V Woothach (2.15); Ramsgate v Turnenge Well:
UNIVER SUSSEX COUNTY LENGUE First Devictore Existence Town v Process. Jan Office Lengue County Wenter Devictore Existence Souther V Windom: Lengue County Wenter Devictore Existence South v Victor Devices of South v Kengers of Victorian Victor V Victorian V V

Stori, Hobbach v Newtort Pagneti, Wallingborough v Normanntha Spencer.

SCREWFOR DREET LEAGUE Premier Divisions Care v Barnsmite, Chard v Errore, Taurdon v Brito Manor Form, Wassiny v Mangosfield, Northesen Countries East LEAGUE Premier Divisions Begger v Armonge, Brigg v Pickering, Garshoughon v Portofriest Selby L Liversolge, North West Countries LEAGUE Prest Divisions. Accord Coheron Coheres v Divisions Brooke v Goranto Coheres v Divisions People v Selbroth Mossiey v Morre Road: Prestor v Brooke v State Mossiey, Marrie V Permitti Coheron v Brookensole. Challengte Cap Brief Cond replay, Nagrad v St Neters 1, 200.

JEWSON WESSER LEAGUE: Comes v Romey, Leste gr of toton; Permitted v Bournauth PC: Patternauth East Comes (Whithauth v Ryde Sports, 18WSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premiter Divisions Coeron v Drug Genet Varmough v Sudbury Town; Sorton v Bury V West Mediands Palace.

FEDERATION BRISWERY MORTHERN LEAGUE.

Junds Palor.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE HOST DIVISION:
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE HIST DIVISION:
Stockton v Durtam; Gusborough v West Auchinard; Senam Red Sar v Murcon.

LEAGUE OF WOLLES: Britan Ferry v Holywelt; Cosmarton v Centhon; Caersey v Ton Perme 1,200; Cernes Bav v Entre Vate; Contain's Quart Burry 12,01; Corny, Flut; Ince Cable-Tel Coeff! v Nestbury; Porthracolog v Lionsprating; Rej v Abet; Stay; To Westbrook v Burry League Durana, Holywell Burry 12,01; Corny, Flut; Ince Cable-Tel Coeff! v Abet; Stay; To Westbrook v Elangue Cay.

PRESS 8, JORNAL, HORH-AND LEAGUE Brozz Lossemouth; Cacheracucton v Fesserburgh; Coeffergen; Formers, Elgor Normes, Mechanics; Fort Malain v Bucke-Bristo (2,15); Nam County v Deverance; West Academy v Petth.

SCOTTERN QUALIFYTING CUP (Norm) Semi-finel replay: Peterhead v Hutovy.

replay Peterhead v Hurdy, SMERHOFF RESKI LEAGUE Premier Division: Ards v Genovor: Crusader's v Gentorer; Limfeld v Californide; Prosicione v Colorane. First Division: Ballymera v Lame; Carrick v Oragin; Divollery v Bangar; Nisery v Bangusere. HARP MATIGNAL LEAGUE OF BREAMD Premier Division: Deny Ony v St Parock's Aprileo; 17:301; Hattle Farth Eventon / Shellourne (7:30).

Rugby Union urless states
R MATCHES: Cambridge University v Junior
regioles Combrid Glasgian-Edit burgh v Aus.
d) 12.15/1/at Anniesiandi.

Poul C Hintegura v Caledonic Unior v Brue (2.30) (of Revenia). Pool D: Milan v Waspo (1.30) (of Revenia). Pool D: Milan v Waspo (1.30) (of Revenia). Pool D: Milan v Waspo (1.30) (of Revenia). Pool D: Milan v Waspo (2.30) (of Revenia) v Brazil (1.01) Narborna v Casado (1.30). Teoders v Brazil (1.01) Narborna v Casado (1.30). Pool C: Connacht v Greel (2.30) (of Golway): Durwant v Touton (2.30): Pool C: Connacht v Greel (2.30) (of Golway): Durwant v Touton (2.30): Pool C: Connacht v Greel (2.30) (of Golway): Durwant v Touton (2.30): Pool C: Connacht v Herita (2.30): Bourgan v Swaresa (2.30): Early v Herita (2.30): Early v Brazilani (2.30): Early v Redult': Luernool St Haler's V Herita (2.30): Condon Wesh v Redult': Luernool St Haler's V Herita (2.30): London Wesh v Redult': Luernool St Haler's V Herita (2.30): Connacht v Redult': Luernool St Haler's V Herita (2.30): Searly Pen v Halen (2.30): Searly Pe

version, Persion V Version, Potential Potential Control Souths (2.15).

WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Second Divisions Aberson is Browness (2.30); Bearing V Cross Kers (2.30); Protypool v UNIVE Carnell Peter (2.30); Streetgynles v United Potential Peter v Abersièry (2.30); Ystreetgynles v United V

HOCKEY

NASTRO AZZIRRO SOUTH Presider, Archoners vingt Wipcombet Badentham v Bournermouth Faseham v Trustnedige Weete Gore Count v Ramigaminist Humpstade & Westmanser v Windersere, Madienthead v Wellengreine Gid Kingstanians v Wengeleder Ger Wingstams v Wellengstanians v Wengeleder Ger Wingstams v Wellengstams of Achtrod v Achtrods, Spencer v Chichester v Richmond v Carboting, Petersonough Toem v Carronidge Univ., Rectangle & Nord v Berstein.

DIZ MIDLARD Premier: Biossormied v Khakar, Rectangle & Nord v Berstein, Norm Warende, Hertonne v Blossich; Normpstam v North Notas, Otto & West Warende v Lungthorough Students, NORTH Premier: Ben Brydding v Formby, Narrogare v North Notas Somigliede v Timpeney: Skalled V Destay.

SUNLIFE WEST OF ENGLAND & SOUTH WALES.

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SUNLIFE WEST OF ENGLAND & SOUTH WALLES PREMIARS BOTH DUCS V PRINCIPE. Bright Wife V Swanson; Cleredon v Rubinsons; Llandrén & Landall v Tauton Vale, Waston super Mara v Westundh.

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Whench Philipped LEAGHE Premier: Donoster

Hightown (12.0c) Issued v Balasm Lalcester

(12.0c) Sutton Coddeld v Spugn (11.30); Fronts

(2.0c) Sutton Coddeld v Spugn (11.30); Fronts

(2.0c) Chairestord Broadcald v

Com (11.15); Sunderland Bedans v Cantentage

1.0c; Whitzledon v Buelens (12.0c), Second Divisions Emouth v Loughborusin Students (12.0c)

Get Loughtons v Sherrycof (1.0c); S. Niberts

(2.0c) Women's William Divisions Backborn v

Contest Liverpool v Toric Ponyton v Chasser, York

v Sherield.

ROYAL SL LEAST WOMEN'S MEDIAND Premier

ROW, AL-FAISEL WORKEN'S MEDIAND Promise: Balsam Laicester v Disputer. Balsem Lecester v Abridge, Hampton-In-Arben v North Staffs, Product v Bedford; West Bromwich v Crimson Ramblers. WOMEN'S EAST SUPER LEAGUE Premier: Bury St Edmunds v Adribut; Cambridge Cay v lo-secht; Harleston Magbies v Borleynesth; Webryn Garden City v Sevenosies. WOMEN'S WEST Premier: Chellenham y Cohool: Euter's Bournemouth: Resignd y St.Austell, Yate y Windome Wayforley.

WOMEN'S SOUTH First Division: Duhido's Yube Mill Noothern w City of Fortermouth: Hermotesed & Westernsteen & Rouding Southernsteen & Westernsteen & Rouding Southernsteen & Westernsteen & Westernsteen & Westernsteen & Westernsteen & Westernsteen & Westernsteen & Devision: American & Medicardwest: Disadence & Calendard & Calendard

Basketbaff

CLASSIC COLA CUP: Mancheser Gents v Dysos Petros 17.301; Coverby Orusalers v Sheffled Sharks 17.301; Pougeot Bullers Brindingham v Hermá A Mestar Royal; 7.301; Cardé Pricens v London Towers (6.01; Ware Rabels v Newcastle Ea-ges 58.01; Thames wide; Pigers V Getty Brom (6.01; Wortzing Beans v Lebester Rodes (6.01)

Ice hockey

Other sports METBALL: Test Metch: England v Jamaica (2.45) (NEC Arena, Barrangham). TENNES: Women's Challenger (Sciences).

TOMORROW

IMBORTO LEAGUE Premier Division: Sparry-mor's Colveys Bey (11.0).

Marge Mantonas LEAGUE OF (RELIAND Premier Division: Bay Vibrations of Prin Harts (2.45); Dun-cials V Con Coy (3.15); Starryck Rovers V Uni-versity Codings Dublin (2.15).

HOCKEY

NETRONAL LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bertod Tigos v Harmin (1.00; Caleford v Reserver, 10.20); Konstov v Harmin (1.00; Caleford v Reserver, 10.20); Konstov v Camelour v Caleford (1.00); Subject v Tigoro (2.0); Gooty v V Staupon (1.00); Brookland v Tigoro (2.0); Gooty v Hareston Magazes (1.00; Donaster v Caleford (1.00); Subject v Fredword (1.00); Hold v Leves (2.00); Subject v Caleford (1.00); Subject v Caleford (1.00

Basketball

BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Sheffield Shafes v Paugeot. Bullets Berntmetham (7.0); Exide Loodon Towers CLASSIC COLA CUP: Chasser Jess v Playboy TV ice hockey

Other sports

Britons' big impression

STUART ALEXANDER reports from Les Sables d'Olonne

the Vendée Globe singlehanded non-stop round the world race, are decidedly slim. But, as they

bead out into the Atlantic here tomorrow, both Pete Goss and Tony Bullimore will know they have made a bigger impression in the host country, France, than they have achieved at home.

British hopes of winning what is undoubtedly the toughest test for racing yachtsmen and women, have snaked their way to the pontoons where the 16 yachts, all but Goss's 60 feet long, have been going through their final



preparations. Last Sunday alooe, 17,000 people turned up to view not just their sporting beroes but the amazing boats they will drive for between 110 and 120 days, 24 hours a day, through some of the most treacherous seas and coudi-

tions as they circle Antarctica. Nor was the organisation entirely sure how many competitors there would be. Fifteen are definite with the case of the recently qualified Raphael Dinelli still being considered. Hungary's Nandor Fa, Belgium's Patrick de Radigues, and Canada's Gerry Roufs complete the outside challenge to an event organised by and still dominated by the French.

Sporting the most radical approach is Yves Parlier, whose Aquitaine Innovations has cost another £125,000 to beef up a mast and supporting heams which let him down in last year's singlehanded transatlantic race. It gives him a swivelling mast of the kind more favoured by multihulls, which should mean more speed but can also mean more problems where there is no one to solve them. Partier also has to worry about Christophe Augin, twice a winner of the BOC race whose Geodis looks to be a formidably powerful machine.

There are two women in the race. The irrepressible Isabelle Autissier in her new £1m PRB, complete with the same sort of swinging keel featured on Goss's Aqua Quorum, and Catherine Chahaud in the rather older Whirlpool.

Autissier was strongly ahead in the last BOC race until her yacht was first dismasted and then lost as she was rescued by the Australian navy. "I have never had any nightmares about that," she said yesterday. "It's part of my life, part of my joh. You cannot take revenge on the sea or the wind."

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ings School action group, the Photograph: Asadour Guzelian



Ridings' new headteacher

chools

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Are the FA not aware that absence makes the heart grow fonder

Just like the national curriculum, Government policies and the Royal family, football has had to change with the times. Indeed, many of the recent changes means it is approaching the millennium in a healthier state than ever before instead of being dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st century. However, it still seems that the game is undergoing a programme of plastic surgery that threatens to give it an ugly countenance and render it unrecognisable from the beautiful game

it was designed to be. Take this week for example. Not only has the idea resurfaced - at the suggestion of two German television companies - that a match should consist of three periods of 30 minutes rather than the traditional two halves (a proposal which would concede further ground to television in the power struggle for football's supremacy), but the Football Association has announced plans for a 12-month sea-

son to avoid fixture congestion. Is the FA not aware that absence makes the ture list as haphazard as Estonia's heart grow fonder, of the "scarcity value of the game", as the agent Jon Holmes put it?

Obviously not, but as we approach yet another period of postponed games due to international matches, the fact is that domestic fixture congestion is threatening to make a mockery of the notion that football is a simple game affording

Time was when a fan's week consisted of Saturday afternoon games with the odd midweek clash thrown in for good measure. Now, you pays your money and you take your chances: Friday night; Saturdays (morning or afternoon for heaven's sake); Sundays at 1pm or 4pm; Mon-day, Tuesday and Wednesday nights; and even Thursdays on occasions. Sky weren't joking when they promised "football seven days a week". But it's easy to blame Rupert

ture list as haphazard as Estonia's timekeeping. Surely Sky's only crime was to have offered financial carrots to the Premier and Football Leagues which neither could resist? In the latter's case the deal is worth £125m over five years, money the League calls

ton manager, Alan Curhishley, thinks the League has been held to ransom by Sky: "That Sky made the Football League kick off on a Friday night says it all to me as to where the power lies. It makes my job harder because if you play on Friday might, you'll watch a game on the Sal-urday and probably have to assess potential opponents on Sunday too." Charlton are among those First

"the lifeblood of the smaller chubs".

But it comes at a cost. The Charl-

Division clubs who face a backlog of postponed games due to in-ternational involvement. "We forced the issue over international players," Curbishley says, "and we know we were released for a game that at-

Olivia Blair



ON SATURDAY

can't have our cake and cat it. But you can't ask fans to watch a team without three of its top stars. They're the ones being mucked around." The club versus country situation takes on a more ludicrous bue in Charlton's case when you consider that their England Under-21 players

tracted less than 4,000 fans and can't better. Sutcliffe's charts re-forced the postponement of a game that would have drawn around 10,000 and white squares, each club being to The Valley. But Curbishley is also unhappy about the midweek fixture list which, last Tuesday, saw the Robins having to travel to Transcre

and Manchester City to Southend. However, organising a fixture list to please everybody all of the time is no easy matter. It involves a lengthy process which begins in October to be ready for the following August. It is a far cry from the 1880. when, with only 12 clubs to consider, a ballot determined which clubs would play at home on the first Sat-urday - and the clubs waked the rest out themselves, From 1915 to 1967 the League paid a little lawyer called Charles Sutcliffe 150 guineas for a fixture list which took three days to com-plete and was invariably so foolproof that the first draft seldom needed more than eight changes, a standard even the most modern computer

allocated a different number each season. Apparently the only mistake he ever made was once to mix up Sheffield Wednesday with United.

In 1967 the League's secretary, Alan Hardaker, paid £400 for the copyright of Surcliffe's system, but computers soon rendered it obsolete. However, the same criteria still have to be taken into account today, such as holiday dates like Christmas and new year when no club wants to play away, midweek variations (even club has its own preferences depending on local customs); each flow (no club can have three or more home games in a row, and none want a derby fixture on the first day of the season, a traditionally lucrative fixture date t: local problems (Bury, Stockport, Manchester City and Rochdole all want to avoid clashes with Manchester United, as do both Everton and

Tranmere with Liverpool); policing (Scarborough and York are 41 miles apart yet policed by the same force so they can't play at home on the same day); and events outside tootball like the Grand National, party conferences and the Nottingham Goose Fair which affect teams in Livernool, Brighton, Blackpool, Bournemouth and Nottingham with regard to the police and transport facilities.

So it's inevitable that occasionally Darlington will have to play Torquey at Christmas and West Ham fans will have to get up at 54m on New Year's Day to catch a ceach to Maine Road, as happened last year. But we're not asking for miracles here, just a little restraint. Making the Com-Cida Cup a one-legged attair might help, but then that is tinkering with football's traditions as much as ex-panding the fixture list is. Charles Suteliffe must be turning in his grave.

Olivia Blar is assistant editor of FourFour Two magazine

Wounded Lions go down fighting

Rugby League

DAVE HADFIELD reports from Lancaster Park, Christchurch New Zealand

Britain's walking wounded stag-gered and limped away with all the unwanted luggage of a series of new records as they went down to their third defeat in New Zealand here yesterday.

The tourists started with six men who should not bave played and suffered injuries that deprived them of two others. The record books tend to miss that sort of background information - what they will remember is that this was Great Britain's biggest losing margin against the Kiwis and only the second whitewash in a series.

It was also, by any dispassionate measurement, the end of the least successful tour of a major league-playing nation that the Lions have ever endured: they will fly home tomorrow without having won a game in New Zealand.

And yet among this chronicle of disaster, there was much that was brave and admirable in Britain's efforts last night.

Two of their most vital players, Bobbie Goulding and Andy Farrell, could only play after being given painkilling injections. Others, like Stuart Spruce and Kris Radlinski, chose not to have the needle, playing through considerable pain instead, while Alan Hunte and Daryl Powell both turned out despite medical advice against

doing so. "I wouldn't be critical of any of the players and I would be very disappointed if anyone else was," their coach, Phil Larder, said. "I felt that everyone out there gave me 100 per cent and you can't ask for more

going beyond any reasonable call of duty. "He was told he shouldn't play because of the muscle tear in his side, and it was only Andy appealing to me to let him go out there as captain that saw him play," Larder said, Farrell had to run up and down the touchline 15 minutes hefore the game to assess whether his injections bad worked. Like others who should

Another brave effort from the Great Britain Academy side could not prevent them also going down to a white-wash in their series against the Junior Kiwis. Trailing by 18 points midway through second half, the young Lions fought back to lose 37-36. Ian Knott, Gary Broadbent, John Clarke, Paul Anderson, Ian Watson and Nathan Mc-Avoy scored their tries.

have been sitting safely in the stands, he shirked nothing, demonstrating a spirit for which this beaten touring party will get all too little credit.

Farrell's henchman, Denis Betts, was another who stood out. On the day he equalled Cliff Watson's 25-year-old record as Britain's most capped forward. Betts also achieved the distinction of scoring a try in each match of the series. His touchdown after three

minutes, spotting a gap in the corner from dumny half, briefly made it seem possible that Great Britain could defy med-

ical science, but it was not to be a happy 31st international for Betts, however well be played individually. Within five min-utes, the Kiwis had drawn lev-Farrell was a typical case of el, John Timu going through oing beyond any reasonable some substandard defence for

a converted try. New Zealand dominated from that point onwards, but were held at bay until 12 min-utes before half-time, when the match suddenly fell apart for Great Britain, with three quick tries killing off their hopes of salvaging anything from the series. Stacey Jones and Steve Kear-

ney combined to send in Ruben Wiki to begin the collapse and, when Goulding's attempt to pass to Hunte was intercepted by Gene Ngamu, it was almost all over. Another ill-fated Goulding initiative saw New Zealand again turn defence into attack, Timu picking off the British scrum-half's chip kick and Ngamu releasing Sean Hoppe. Iestyn Harris's pass sent

Adrian Morley charging over to fan a few embers of hope. They glowed fitfully for 10 minutes before New Zealand again showed how dangerous they are direct from the scrum. Jones and Ngamu slicing the British defence apart for Hoppe to claim his second. Matthew Ridge claimed the

final points of the game and series, converting a try which he scored out of nothing, his fourth goal underlining his contribution to this increasingly confident Kiwi side as full-hack, captain and kicker. His other role, as wind-up merchant, was responsible for one of the more bizarre endings to any player's Test career.

Powell had already an-

Denis Betts (white shirt) tries to keep Britain on the move in Christchurch yesterday tining from internationals after this, his 33rd appearance for his country, to concentrate on his new job as player-coach at

Powell tangled with Ridge, af-ter the Kiwi captain had allegedly "sledged" another British player. The Great Britain nounced that he would be recentre then appeared to be sent

or orthodox manner.

Keighley. However, he proved

unwilling to bow out in a quiet

off for what he said to the referce, Steven Clark, but somehow managed to return to the field for the last two minutes. It was later confirmed that Powell had indeed been sent off for "foul and abusive language" rather

curtain on a stubborn and durable Test career. There was something almost symbolic about it. Britain badly

beaten but unwilling to accept it gracefully, brought back up to quota by a player who was not even allowed to be there. There was a courage about this defeat that deserves to be remembered despite the statistics of this miserable month in New Zealand.

NEW ZEALANDE Ridge (Mainly); Hoppe Fack-land), Wild (Carberro), Time (Carterbury), Ellis (Auckland); Ngente Puckland), Jones (Auckland); Po-gia (Carberra), Iro (Sydney Crly), Kearney Auckland), Smith (South Sydney), Substitutes seat: A Swaria (Auckland), Capana (Auckland), OREAT SRITANE Sprace (Brodford); Honte (St Heierd), Raddinski (Wagan), Powell (Neglic) I, Mather (Messen Reds); Nammond (St Heiers), Goodding (St Heiers); Broadbard, Shelbed), Can-langham (St Heiers); Croamfor (Wagan, Betts (Auckland), Scalibborpe (Autrogran, Swither), Capan, Substitutes seath Harria (Wasnigon), Joynt (St Heiers), Morley (Leeds), Dwyor (Brofford).

Photograph: Simon Baker/Empics

Referee: 5 Clark (Australia).

Eagles land Larder

Phil Larder had some welcome good news yesterday when he was appointed coach of Sheffield Eagles.

Larder, the former Widnes and Keighley coach, will return from Great Britain's disastrous tour ~ which he has been in charge of to succeed Gary Hetherington, the founder of the Fagles who left the club this week to become chief executive of Leeds.

The announcement was made within two hours of Britain's third Test defeat in New Zealand. Speaking from Christchurch, Larder said: "Sheffield Eagles are one of the real success stories of rughy league and I am proud and honoured to accept the position."

Immically, Larder succeeds his own assistant in the Great Britain camp, Hetherington, who flew home early from the tour to take up his new position at Headingley. Hetherington said: "Phil is a tremendous signing. He has worked at every level and is very ambitious to take a team to the top. He will find the Eagles players very receptive and eager to learn. I wish him every success.

Larder, a former player with Oldham and Whitehaven, was the Rugby League's first director of coaching from 1982 to 1986. He later coached Widnes and Keighley and was assistant to the Great Britain coaches Maurice Bamford, Malcolm Reilly and Ellery Hanley, before succeeding the latter in time for the 1995 World Cup.

The Sheffield president, Terry Sharman, who has succeeded Hetherington as chief executive, said; "I have known Phil Larder since 1981 and have admired his outstanding record in coaching and team management. His availability at this time represents a golden opportunity for the Eagles."

Q DOTES OF THE WEEK

You short-brained or what? We go to Eurosport after the match and we check but the replay if I am right, you'll never be up on the chair again is that a deal? Michael Stich, German tennis player, disagrees with umpire Richard Kauman's deci-

Richard Kaufman's decision in Stuttenia.

When he was in linkey. Sourcess didn't from any thing about football. If his side can score swap has been them on weethers and buy beet them on weethers and tryging Bullent orange. It is about time to bring in the an end. I don't see! it to an end i don't teel that I'm too big it an't say I'm sorry loe Frazier, the

former world heavyweight champion who wares to end his long running stand with Muhammad Air Let's forget the corp.
parisons with Pelesands recognise Ronaldo for what he is - the best plan er in his position in the world. Ronaldo is not the past, he is the present. Brazil's coach, Marto Za gallo, on naming the

Barcelona attacker in his squad for a friendly against Cameroon next month. I desperately wanted to score and to qualify for the World Cup final, but I didn't and Germany went through Chris Wards sponds to criticism of his decision to appear in a piz-

za advert with Stuart Pearce and Gareth South

gate making fun of their England penalty misses.

Gustafsson on march

Tennis

Magnus Gustafsson became the first semi-finalist at the Paris Open vesterday when he put controversy over let calls to one side to beat Marc Rosset, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2. Rosset and Gustafsson got

into prolonged discussions with the chair umpire. Rich Kauf-man, over the electronic let detector used to feel the ball clipping the net on service. The device replaced the judge sitting with his finger on the act who was considered to be in danger of being hit by tennis balls com-

ing past at high speed.

Rosset did not think much of the machine. "I think there's a better way than to spend so much money for a machine that does not work," Rosset said. "If you are serving more than 200kph [125mph], and the ball is passing close to the net, maybe the vibration is going to make the thing beep.

The tournament supervisor, Mark Darby, was summoned. "In the second [set] we had some problems and we tried to adjust the sensitivity of the machine. In the third set there were no problems. One thing for sure, it has to touch the net to make a sound." was Darty's contribution to a debate that provided more excitement than the match.

Monica Seles and Jennifer Capriati moved closer to their first meeting since 1992 when they both won in the Ameritech Cup in Chicago yesterday. Seles, who shares the world No 1 ranking with Steffi Graf, defeated Irina Spirlea 7-6, 6-2,

in their quarter-final taking advantage of 33 unforced errors and 12 double-faults by the Romanian. Capriati, ranked 50th and a late entry in Chicago, put out the No 8 seed and defending champion, Magdalena Maleeva, 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 in the second round.

Taylor lets his team down

Dennis Taylor failed to prevent Belgium producing a shock victory in the World Cup in Bangkok yesterday and admit-

ted: "I let the boys down." Taylor lost a 57-minute deciding frame to Bjorn Haneveer as his Ulster trio slipped to a 5-4 Group A defeat. "I'm not pulling my weight," said the 47-year-old former world champion. Taylor has now secured just one of the six frames be has con-

tested in the 20-nation event. At one stage the Irish threesome led 4-2, with Joel Swail and Terry Murphy making up for their captain's poor form. But a break of 75 enabled Mario to beat Murphy and pull

the score back to 4-3, and Delsemme added a run of 58 against Swail and suddenly the match was tied.

Northern Ireland now play the group leaders, the Republic of Ireland, today. In Group B, Canada recorded their second successive 8-1 win to overtake Scotland, who play South Africa this evening. The Canadians defeated Singapore with their only defeat suffered by Alain Robidoux against Bernard Tey.

England slipped 1-0 behind against China when they began their second match in Group C. The world No 5. Nigel Bond, already beaten by Dubai accountant Masood Akil against the United Arab Emirates, lost on a respotted black to Tao Sban.

Langer takes share of lead in Hong Kong

Bernhard Langer kept up his chances of a confidence-boosting win in the Alfred Dunhill Masters in Hong Kong yester day with a four-under-par 67 to take a joint share of the lead. Langer, who has now gone 13 months without a victory and failed to win a European Tour event for the first time in 17 years, is one of four leaders at

the halfway stage on 133.

The German is joined by New Zealand's Paul Devenport. Taiwan's Hsieh Yu-shu and Park No-seck, of South Korea. "Every win is nice although victory here will not make up for missing out in Europe this year." Langer said. "But it would certainly be good to win to end the season on a positive note and get my confidence

Europe's No I, Colin Moutgomerie, still suffering from the effects of jet-lag, returned his second successive 69 to lie five behind the leaders, while Ernie Els, fresh from winning his third successive World Match Play title, added a 69 to

his first-round 71. Laura Davies was four shots off the lead after the first round of the Toray Japan Queens Cup in Azuma yesterday. Davies, who is chasing her minth win of the year and her second in Japan, fired a one-under-par 71. The three-day tournament

for a top prize of \$112,500 (£75,000) will end the race for the 30 places in the Tour Championship, the season-ending event in Las Vegas from 21-24 November, Karrie Webb, of Australia, tops the list with 847,903pis, followed by Davies

SPORTING DIGEST Basketball

New York, Los Angeles and Phoenix were among the eight sites chosen on Wednesday for the naugural Women's National Basketball Association season due to start next summer. Val Ackerreaching the test statement, yet Aderman, the League president, announced Phoenix, Los Angeles (Lakers), Sacramente and Utah will comprise the Western Conference, while New York Charlotte, Cleveland and Houston make up the Eastern Conference. The two-morth schedule will be released in February must the testern conference leave. month schedule will be released in Feb-niary, as will the team names and logis. The WNBA Draft will occur on 28 April with training camps opening 28 May and the regular season beginning on 21. June. US Women's national team members Rebecca Lobo and Sheryl Swoopes became the first two players to commit to the league last week.

than merely sin-binned, and he

has had to apologise to the in-ternational judiciary for his un-

scheduled reappearance with

which he brought down the

The Great British Olympic bobsleigh team's lucrative sponsorship deal with Zarrussi will commue despite the recent drug case in which Mark Tout was banned for life.

Lennox Lewis still does not know the date of his fight against Oliver McCan for the vacan! World Boxing Council heavyweight title. The promoter Don King has suggested two atternative dates: 1.1 January in Nashville, Tennessee, or 8 February in Britain, Lewis has been watterfor for a title phenos since he attorned for a title phenos since he attorned. ing for a title chance since he stopped Lionel Butler in a WBC final eliminator in Sacramento in May last year.

Cricket Paul Smith, the all-rounder released at his own request by Warwickshire in Au-gust after 16 seasons at Edigbaston, has signed a one-year contract with Shrop-

Shahid Nexis, the 21-year-old Pakistan seamer who took 5 for 54 on his Test debut against Zambahwa two weeks ago, is to join the Northern League side Kendal as their professional in 1997. TODAY'S

NUMBER

100m

The pesetas (£500,000) that the Catalan Tennis Federation are to spend sponsoring five promising players on condition that they pay back the money if they make the top 100 in the world rankings.

Shahid Africk hit eight fours and four so-es in his 36-ball 66 as Palvistan crushed Zimbabwe by mine wickets in Lahore yesterday to take a 2-0 lead in their three-match limited overs series. Saeed Anwar made 84 not out. 1 (28.4) overs: Saeed Armor 8-no, Shond Am-di 60. Polidatan with by sabe wickets and table lead 2-0 in Larina. ITAN CAP TRANSBIRAR ONE-DAY LIMITED-OVERS SENES: (Carvahati, India): Australia 2.5 for 6 150 overs: M Bevan 19. M Stater 53hor; South Africa 139 for 2 (45 overs: A Hus-son 68. L Nuseer (80no). South Africa win by eight windows. Service standings: a South Africa (P6. Pis.12); 2 India (5-3); 3 Australia (5-1).

(5-1).
SUPERSPORT SERIES (formerly Castle Cap)
Pirst day: Cape Yout: Western Province 220
(I Commiss Sino, H Ackerman 51: R Bryson
1-6-11: Northern Transacti 95 for 2. Derbart:
Natal 315 for 5 (D Benkerstein 1,5-no, N Buyes
73, S Politock 59-no) v Benter: Prassit Botand
258 (I. Ferners 127: C English 5-65); Griqualand West 7 for 0.

Edy Gragus, of the United States, took the leader's yellow jersey yesterday when he won the 2.1 knometres (1.3 miles) prologue in the second four of China. Gragus, of the US Postal Service, finished the time that in 3mm 8.040sec, 1.5eec ahead of compatinot Andy Bishop of the NutraFig-Colorado tearn. The cyclists in the 10-day event will finish in Shanghat after covering a total distance of 667.5km (413 miles).

Football

The former Norwich, Nottingham For-est and Notts County striver Justin Fashanu scored on his debut for Miramar Rovers in a 4-2 New Zealand Na-bonal League win over Melnile United less than three days after joining the

Whitey Town's FA Cup first-round we with

Hull City will now be played at Scar-borough's McCain Stadium on Sunday pswich Town's top scorer Alex Matthe is to underso a shoulder operation which is almost certain to keep him out for the rest of the season.

Wycombe Wanderers' new manager John Gregory has named Richard Hill, the former Oxford United and Northamp-ton mutiledier, as his assistant manager. Hill had been Reading's first-team Arsenal's Coca-Cota Cup third-found re-

Arsenal's Coca-Cota Cup third-found replay against. Stoke at Highbury on Wednesday 13 November will be televised live by Sky Sports.

ENGLAND URDER-21 SCHAD (European Under-21 Champhonehip Broup Two v Georgia, Bahani, 8 November; 10 by Chystal Pelacei, Maystra (Chartoni, Schreen (Acta), Raft (Derrity), Thatcher (Morréladini, Duberry (Chefsen), Baltis (Chartoni, P. Havillae (Morreladini, Duberry (Chefsen), Baltis (Chartoni, P. Havillae (Morreladini, Derrity), Chefsen (Hartoni), Place (Morreladini, Derrity), Stephen (Derby), Bell (Manchester Utd., Thampson (Liverpool), Baltis (Morrela, Cyer (Crystal Palacei, Hashay (Lives-1er), Schreen's), Branch (Ecritoni, Haspitruy), Sincitied (Medinestia), Alben (Totapanen).

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29 Nove Mithard v Bromtoni intom Sat 30 Nov. Set 30 No

ALFRED DURBELL, MASTERS (Hortz Name) Lending, second-round accroses \$3.23 Hours, 10.24 of the first second records \$3.24 Hours, 10.24 of 56.7; P. Devenort, P.D. 63.70, B. Langer (Gen 66.67; P. Langer, 174.71; C. G. Chalmer, Sale, 70.66; P. Copper (Aust.) 69.67; S. Laytor (U.S. 66.69, 1.37) J-I. Galor, March 66.75; Laytor (U.S. 66.69, 1.37) J-I. Galor, March 67.70, B. Hagher (Hans 66.71; Deloctant; 1.38; C. Chargersone (GE) 69.24; 1.66 (Cen 1.42); 67.70; D. Hagher (J. Hans 66.71; Deloctant; 1.38; C. Chargersone (GE) 69.24; 1.66 (Cen 1.42); 67.70; D. J.A. 1.68 (Cen 1.42); 67.71; 70.85; 1.67 (Cen 1.42); 70.85

Motor racing

Nissan announced yesterday it would develop a new GT car for the Le Mons 24-hour race in France next June. The new car, to be named a Nissan R390 GT1, will be powered by a Nissan-

developed 3.5 little twin-turbo V-S enentnes for next year's Le Mans but three

Eighteen amateur clubs will compete with professional sides from the First and Second Divisions for the most to take and second Divisors for the right of an on Super League Jeams in the 1997 Silk Cut Challenge Cup. A total of 72 amateur teams will set out on the cut trail on 21. December, with first and Sec-ond Division chals emerge in the third League have dropped the idea of seed ing leading Super Largue clubs and the will all now enter the competition at the fourth-round stage on 8 February.

SHOOKET

CASTROL HONDA WORLD CUP [Banglock]:
Group A: Beignam to Northern Incl. of 5-4
Group C: Canada of Singapore M-1; England
to China 5-4. [English ames Intal M-8 Geva feet
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Chong 1-0, Mongan to Foot 1-0, Walants to
Chong 1-0, Mongan to Sent 1-0, Dones to
Foot 1-01.

Squash

Peter Nicol and Chris Walker have moved receivable and construction of three and lour respectively in the new world rankings Neol, the 23-year-old front incrurse near Aberdeen, has reached three sent-trials since September, and the final of the US Open which he lost narrowh to bright like 2 Packers. First, The 23 was world No 2 Rodney Eyles. The 29-year old Walker is the highest-ranked Eng-lishman on the list, produced by the Professional Squash Association and still headed by Pakistan's Jansher Khan, as it has been since September 1993. LEADING PSA WORLD RANGINGS; 1 Lin-sher Man (Paki; 2 P Evics (Aust; 3 P Naci (Scot, 4 C Walker (Eng); 5 P Naci (Aust; 3 P Naci (P Hatte (Eng), 7 C Roward (Aust; 84 Chain-er (Eng), 9 A Hall (Aust; 10 S Parke (Eng),

Bons Becker has pulled out of next week's Stockholm Open because of an inflamed tendon in his right ankle. PARIS OPEN (France) Men's singles, quar-ter-finels: M Gustafason (Swe) of M Rosser

LTA WOMEN'S CHALLENGER (Edinburgh) Singles quarter-finals; D Schludious (Cz Reyt of J Pullin IGB) 6-3 6-3; S Smart (GB) at h Cross (GB) 6-3 4-6 6-0; In Manuska (Auff of S Noorlander (Neth) 0-6 6-3 6-4.

S NODERIOR (VENEZ O-6 5-3 6-4.
AMERITECH CUP (Chicago) Women's siz-gles accord normal / Capron (USI bit M Malo-ria (But) 6-3 5-7 6-1. Deavement (USI bit M Subrez May) 7-6-6-0. B Schutz McCarny (Neth bit X Wid (US) 7-5-6-7 7-0. Quarter-final: M Selec. (US) bit 1 Sprice (IRom 7-6-6-2).

Chivadze puts faith in proud tradition '

Georgia play England next Saturday in their first home match in World Cup history. **Hugh Pope** visits Tbilisi and meets the men who could cause a commotion in the Caucasus

lot of things will be happening for the first time when England play their World Cup qualifier against Georgia here in Tollisi on 9 November. And noted it may a great of the than the body is more aware of that than the Georgian trainer and local football legend. Alexander Chivadze.

As the day of the big match rapidly approached, Chivadze was still just settling into his first office as the first manager of the first Geor-gian national football squad, preparing for their first match ever against England.

The sharp-eyed Georgian trainer is a man of few words. He has even fewer illusinns about the chances of his team from the five-

year-old republic against the world-famous names of English football.
"I don't know who will win. Be-fore the game, both sides have the same chance." Chivadze said. "In football you have only one rule: stop them scoring against you, and get-ting your side to score."
Georgia looked good in an un-

lucky 1-0 defeat to Italy in Rome in their first qualifying match last month. Wales have good reason to remember their trip to Georgia two years agu for a Euro 96 qualifier: they lost 5-0. Players like Georgi Kinkladze at Manchester City have made a name for themselves ahroad, And when Chivadze heard that his rival, Glenn Hoddle, was a born-again Christian, he felt on home ground at last.

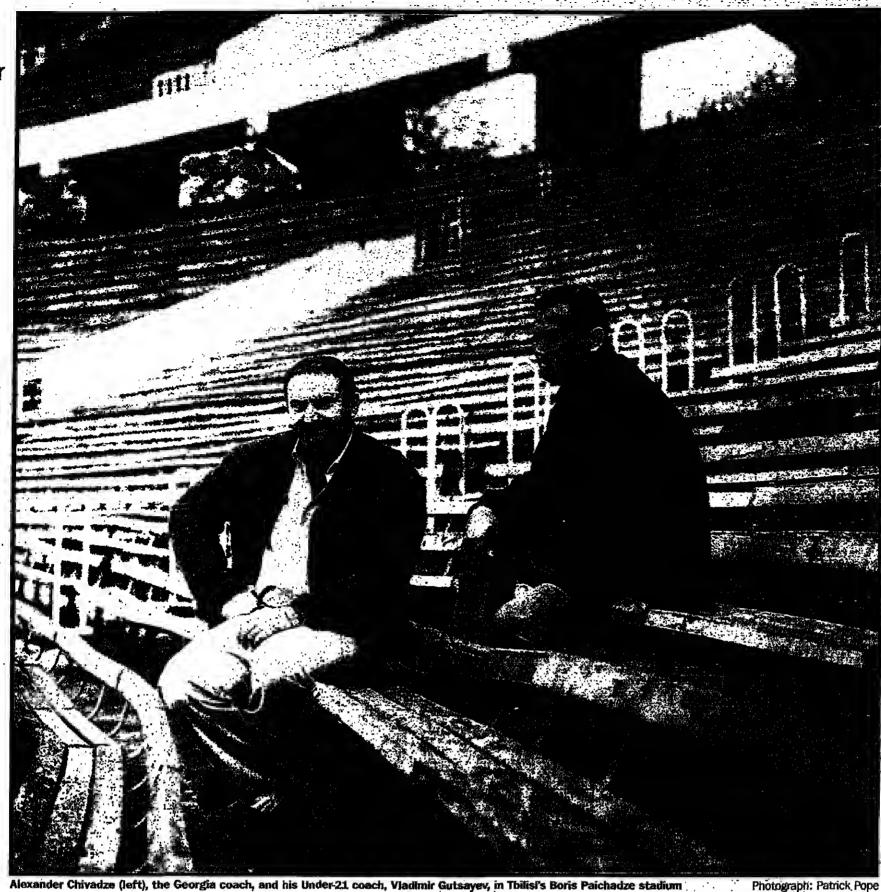
"He may be Christian, but we have been Christian for longer. Since the fourth century, you know." he said, proudly digging out a big gold crucifix on a necklace from the thick carpet of hair under

Georgia may be a young repub-lic, but it is proud of preserving its customs in the Caucasus mountains between Russia, Turkey and Iran. One of those traditions, more recent and little realised in England,

prisingly good at foothall. Chivadze should know. He is 41 years old now, but he still has the moustache that marked out his hawk-like face when won 52 caps for the Soviet Union. He captained the side for five years, during which tiny Georgia supplied up to six players to a team that drew its men from all over the Soviet realm.

"They called me the 'General of the Russian Defence' when the Soviet Union beat England 2-0 in Wembley in 1984," Chivadze said. "But until now we have nnly played as clubs. This is the first time we will be playing against the English na-

During Soviet times, Georgian



Alexander Chivadze (left), the Georgia coach, and his Under-21 coach, Vjadimir Gutsayev, in Tbilisi's Boris Paichadze stadium

national pride had to make do with victories by their premier club, Dynamo Thilisi, which served as a virtual national team during the Soviet era. In European competition, they beat Liverpool 4-2 on aggregate in 1979 and West Ham, after a fabulous 4-1 win at Upton Park, by the same margin in 1981.

Those days were lovingly re-called by Chivadze's close friend and trainer of the Georgian Under-21 side, Vladimir Gutsayev, a star midfielder and forward for Dynamo Thilisi, who was also capped 22 times for the Soviet side. They were good Soviet teams, but we

great stadium in the capital. They showed all sides of their form at a big match in September for the Communwealth of Independent States - the former Soviet Union

out from an ama

were better," Gutsayev said. Dynamo Tbilisi can still fill the

- Cup, defeating Torpedo Moscow on aggregate during a home-leg match that showed typically Geor-

Flashes of fast-running brilliance left the Russian side standing. The referee's decisions were disputed with shouted displays of a fiery temperament special to the Caucasus mountains. There were also moments of lassitude when it seemed like some players were taking time

teur game - a trait that could pose great dangers when they come up disciplined international sides like England. Nothing on the

well-prepared pitch, however, could compare to the explosive antics of Dynamo Tbilisi's manager. Roaring like a lion, he would charge off his hench to stomp along the sidelines and urge his team on. A polite Uefa official was impatientbrushed aside and ended up look-

The Georgian fans, by contrast, are a remarkably well-behaved lot. Considering the wild reputation of the Caucasus mountains, there is little sound of drunkenness or rowdiness in the large crowds, even after dark in a city that is regularly without electricity.

Youngsters only have cracked tarmac find Georgia is a parts of their bleak housing estates to learn the sport. Sometimes the players do not even have hot water

More poignant are the impromptu hrass bands. These are not the marching bands of the European continent, but are more like a jazz group in a jamming session. During the Torpedo Moscow match, one lone Georgian truming like an embarrassed dog owner peter kept his team company with unable to restrain his Great Dane. peter kept his team company with a series of melancholy solos.

The stadium itself is showing its. age: one section last month entirely lacked seats and consisted only of. menacing-looking welded metal. pieces jutting out of the concrete. In theory it should only hold some 74,000 people, but Chivadze says it has been known to pack in crowds

crumhling Soviet giganticism, the building newly assigned to Chivadze pretty friendly and, in some ways, a familiar place. There is even a British microbrewery, pub and beer garden in the

lish fans expected in Georgia is like-

ly to be the fact that, in addition to

their black, red and white nation-

al flag, the Georgians sometimes

also wave the same white-and-red

banner used by England support-

and the Georgian football federa-

building's crimbling facade.

The house of a grand Georgian

merchant in Isarist times, the So-

viet Union turned the building

mto a school before independent

Georgia assigned it to the federa-

paint is cracked and the fluorescent

lightbulbs are bare.

If the stadium is a monument to

ers - the flag of St George.

main street of Tbilisi. Here its 29-year-old British co-proprietor, Nick Carratu, hrews up a potent version of a Camraaward winning heer, originally called Blunderbuss but reborn in Georgia as 75p-a-pint, 5.5 per cent

Black Panther. With such a welcome, the only friction with some 300 and 700 Eng-

GEORGIA: THE HARD
STRUGGLE TO
ESCAPE OBSCURITY

furnish the place for a national or-ganising body and a team that has only been in existence since Chivadze was chosen to form it in

Up in his wood-panelled room, Chivadze has so far only managed to put in the managers' essentials: a magnetic board to sort out the moves with his players, a huge tele-vision screen in the corner to keep an eye on the hig matches on Eurosport — and perhaps something even more important for his morale: a grainy black-and-white print that caught a moment back in the 1960s when three Georgian players, all So-viet football heroes, embraced Pele on the pitch in Moscow.

In a living link with a deeper Georgian past, the office heating is from a beautiful but chipped 19th century tiled stove that is on a preservation list kept by the Her-mitage Museum in St Petersburg. If the building has seen hard times,

so has Georgian football. A pampered sport in the Soviet era, it harely survived as Georgia collapsed in post-Soviet struggles. Civil war broke out in 1991 and raged until 1993. The president, Eduard Shevardnadze, the last foreign minister of the Soviet Union, only managed to drive para-military gunmen off the streets of the capital in 1995.

Youngsters only have cracked tarmac parts of their bleak housing estates to learn the sport. Sometimes the players do not even have hot water after their games Dynamo Tbilisi does not even have a sponsor's name to sew on their shirts. The national squad does not have its own training pitch, and it is only thanks to a gift from Renault that they have a bus for the team.

Hardly surprisingly, Georgia's best players have been snapped up abroad: Shota and Arvil Arveladze by Trabzonspor in Turkey, Temur Ketsbaia by AEK Athens in Greece, and Kinkladze, Mikhail Kavelashvi and soon, perhaps, Kakhi Tskhadadze at Manchester City.

tion a few hundred yards away is a reminder of Georgia's rich and troubled history. When I visited, the view included teenagers lying drunk on the little patch of grass and pavement in front of the three-story The midfield was always dangerous. And the English strikers were good. As for Hoddle, Chivadze acknowledged that his opposite number was a very great player.

"He was a technical player, not tion. The stairs are still chipped, the a usual English player. I am sure his team will play good foothall. I have to say it is one of the best and Cardboard is piled up in all the strongest teams in Europe," he ad-

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Arsenal or due

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Arsenal search for due respect

Guy Hodgson looks ahead to a day of local difficulties in the Premiership

Perhaps because of the media pounding that Manchester Unit-ed have received in recent days, Arsenal are probably glad of the distinct lack of attention on them even though they are top of the Premiership. The Gunners keep winning and the rest of us remain underwhelmed.

Even in London, Wimble-don's progress to third place has received more plaudits than Arsenal's slightly surprising as-cent to the summit. Yet they have five wins from their last six matches, and wouldn't Manchester United love a record like that at the moment?

Today Arsenal meet Wimbledon at Selhurst Park knowing that if they get their third successive away victory they will open a three point gap at the top, albeit probably only until Liverpool and Newcastle

a brief (at least it is assumed it will be brief) tenure.

"They'll be fired up for it," Martin Keown, the Arsenal central defender, said. "But we'll meet the challenge bead on. There's enough experience and hunger in our side. That's the key to it.

No one will be more confident than Ian Wright, whose 10 goals in nine games have earned him a recall to the England squad and who will be returning to the stadium where he first shot to prominence with Crystal Palace. "It's a lucky ground for him." Keown said. "It's going to be important for them to shut him out of the match." Mark Hughes probably re-

gards Old Trafford as a lucky French test lies in

aggregate.

wait for Newcastle

NICK HARRIS

Newcastle United will meet the French side, Metz, in the third round of the Uefa Cup, with their manager, Kevin Recgan, confident that his side are well prepared for the chal-lenge, "We respect Metz but we don't fear them," he said. "At the same time we are fully aware that French teams always seem to do well in Europe."

The Metz club president, Carlo Molinari, said: Newcastle are obviously the most dangerous club we could have drawn, I have no doubt that they are future champions of England and they have great at-tacking potential.

Metz will be especially worried about David Ginola's return to home territory. Keegan said: "David will be going back to France and he will have the chance to show the French team manager what be is all about now.

Keegan's team, the only British representatives left in the draw in Geneva vesterday, will face a first leg away in the 27,000 capacity Saint-Symphorien studium on 19 November. They will definitely be without their £15m striker Alan Shearer, recuperating from last week's groin operation, but Keegan hopes he will recover in time for the second leg at St James' Park on 3 December.

Metz finished fourth in the French League last season, but are in a in mid-table position this season. They have played in the Uefa Cup three times in the past, but they have never progressed as far as the quarter-finals. They advanced to the third round this time by beating Sporting Lisbon 3-2 on

Internazionale remain the favourites for the tournament, but their trophy-winning credentials were dented somewhat when they were taken to penalties by the unfancied Austrian side, Casino Graz, on Tuesday, Inter, who had Paul Ince sent off, won 5-3 on spotkicks. The Italian side, trying for a third Uefa Cup in seven sea-sons, meet Boarista of Portugal. Unfancied hefore the tournament, Boavista progressed impressively with a 5-1 aggregate win over Dynamo Tblisi of Georgia.

The three German clubs to reach the last 16 avoided each other in the next round. Hamburg face arguably the sternest test after being paired with Monaco, Karlsruhe meet Aberdeen's conquerors. Denmark's Brondby, while Schalke (14 will play the Belgians, Club

MERA CUP Trind-round draw: Met; (Fr) v New-castle Util Morsion v Hamburg Brondby (Den) v NationNet Social Tenedle (Six) v Feyerbord v activ, Anderleen (Ben) i Neorigborg (Swell Cub Briges) (Ben) v Stabilo OS (Six), Internasionale its v Balvato (Ben), Valencia i Besides (Un). First leg Jen 19 Navember, second leg 3 De-cember

play tomorrow. Conversely if striker will be bristling to put one they lose. Wimbledon will take over his erstwhile team-mates at Manchester United. But things have gone so badly for the champions in the last 13 days, a visit from their former player is the least of their worries. Indeed when the front page of another newspaper boomed

out yesterday: "Fergie: I could kill myself" supporters who had watched their team concede 11 goals in two Premiership matches and then lose a 40-year unbeaten bome record in Europe probably empathised. The sur-prise in Manchester was that the headline referred to the Duchess of York and not the United manager, Alex Ferguson.

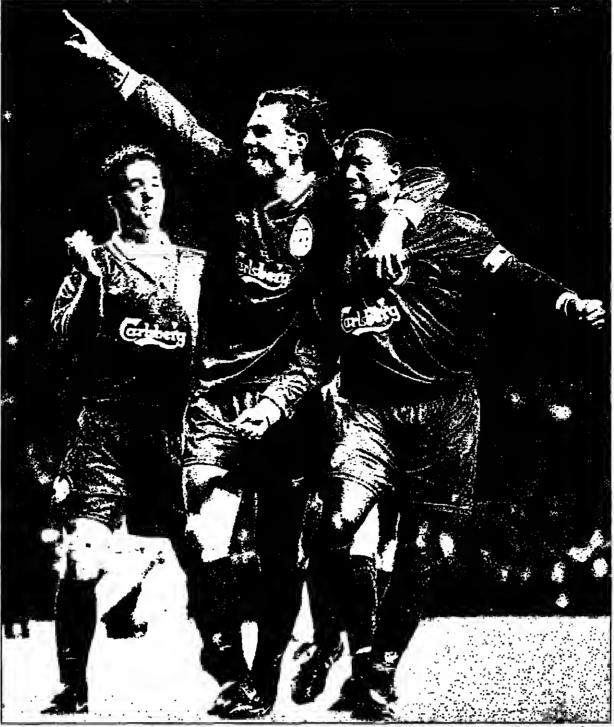
"The best cure would be a win," he said. "Nothing changes in terms of our players' ability and they have the desire. Chelsea have a good record here so they'll have a bit of confidence and have a go at us which will belp. As Coventry's manager, Ron

Atkinson, said this week: "We'd all love Manchester United's problems". One man who would agree is Nottingham Forest's Frank Clark whose team have not won in the League since the opening day of the season. Forest travel to Aston Villa today hoping that the maxim that derbies are great levellers will apply. At least Clark can welcome

back Kevin Campbell, whose 10-match absence with hamstring and ankle problems has coincided with Forest's plummet to third from bottom, Before he was injured he scored four goals in four games; since he has been missing hardly anyone has been able to find the net.

Derby, too, bave been shotshy in recent weeks and like For-est are involved in a Midlands derby, against Leicester City, who have reached the dizzy heights of 11th place in the Premiersbip. Derby, without a win from five league matches, will hope they meet the opponents who were routed by Liverpool rather than the Dr Jekyll side of their character that beat Newcastle 2-0 last week.

Another derby sees West Ham travel to Tottenham, who will be relieved to get back to normal after the emotionally charged match at Chelsea last week in the aftermath of Matthew Harding's death. "I've been a player and a manager for a long time," Gerry Francis, the Tottenham ger, said, "and I've seen a few minute silences, but it was one of the most emotional atmospheres I've ever experienced at a game and it must have been



John Barnes (right) celebrates his goal ageinst Sion with Robbie Fowler (left) and Patrik Berger Photograph: Allsport

Liverpool must tighten up

The Sion coach was encourage ing, but unwilling to reach for over-hold predictions. What chance do Liverpool have of winning the European Cup-Winners Cup? "Good" Alberto Bigon replied. "They are among the top three of four teams in the competition. I do not know how they would do against the others.

His reservations were shared by his Liverpool counterpart, Roy Evans, who was relieved to put a step into his spring by qualifying for the quarter-finals next March but was ughast at the defending of his team. Do not be fooled by the apparent one-sided nature of Thursday's 6-3 win or the 8-4 aggregate. they were mighty close to going

Guy Hodgson on the lessons that must be learned from the Sion show

and behind again later on away goals, Liverpool's sloppy marking and tackling put their Eu-ropean ambitions in jeopardy before they exploited a tiring Swiss opposition to score four times in the last half hour.

Even then, if John Barnes bad not replied immediately to Frederic Chassot's goal that put Sion 3-2 ahead on the night, who knows what the tension would bave done to the bome side's limbs?

Certainly, Evans was less than euphoric. He was pleased to have reached the quarter-finals but he added: "You can't

be hewitched Sion's rearguard, scoring one goal and playing a part in three others. Coming on top of an out-

the whole thing into context, we were lucky to get away with it." standing performance in Switzerland, there was little surprise that Bigon singled out McMan-aman, along with Berger, for praise. They are the players the . Liverpool's main problem was their right flank, where Jason McAteer's willingness to others look to. The others play for them and off them." push forward was not compensated for by an equal cagerness to track back, or by John Scales' As to how Evans shores a de-

covering. Fortunately for Scales and his fellow defenders, their fence that also looked fragile in the Coca-Cola Cup against Charlton, he has obvious alterwrongs were rectified by the atnatives in Neil Ruddock and Mark Wright. The latter, who is The England winger has an on the mend from a hroken infuriating inclination to mislay cheekbone, is probably more the final ball after causing carand covering is acknowledged by McAteer as an important facnage with his dribbling, but on tor in his conversion to a wing-

Venables decides to reject **Rovers**

ALAN NIXON

A £500,000 a year salary and a £20m budget to spend on players has failed to persuade Terry Venables take over as the

manager of Blackburn Rovers. The former England coach has decided to stay as the director of football at Portsmouth because of a difference in opinion on his role at Jack Walker's wealthy Rovers. The main stumbling blocks are understood to bave been the control of transfer spending and the naming of a backroom team. Both Venables and Walker wanted the major say.

The Rovers owner is keen to have Venables' coaching know-bow at the club, but the former Spurs manager would rather be in complete charge.

As the two previous man-agers, Kenny Dalglish and Ray Harford, found out, the final word on transfers rests with the millionaire Walker and be plans to keep it that way.

Blackburn were prepared to offer Venables a lavish wage and even the chance of a signing-on fee if .be would uproot and move north for the first time in

The way is now open for Bruce Rioch to emerge as a leading contender for the Rovers vacancy. The former Arsenal manager, who has support in the Ewood Park dressingroom, is working without a contract as No 2 to Stewart Houston at Oueen's Park Rangers.
Grimsby Town, third from

bottom of the First Division, have parted company with their manager, Brian Laws. The youth coach, John Cockerill, will be in charge for tomorrow's bome game against Sbeffield United, Laws was appointed in November 1994 and was allowed to keep his job in the wake of the dressing-room incident which left the Italian striker Ivano Bonetti, now with Tranmere Rovers, with a fractured cheekbone.

Aston Villa have withdrawn Steve Staunton from the Republic of Ireland squad for the World Cup qualifier with Ice-land in Duhlin on 10 November. The defender has falled to to overcome a hamstring injury which has sidelined him for the last two weeks.

Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, has given his backing to the use of video replays during matches to help de-cide disputed goals. "When it important, because his advice comes to goals, we could use cameras to avoid making mistakes," he said, "But to stop a match to see if a hall was off-

No 160 **Torquay United** By Nick House Recently, watching the country's most improved team. I've pon-

dered the issue of attendances. What makes them go down? Imagine this, A team, playing its 17th game of the season. surpasses the number of victories it achieved the preceding season. The match, at home, is witnessed by a cound lower than

for all but two of the previous season's games. Yet this is the story at Torquay United. The crowd for the recent game against Doneaster was 1.845. Last season, best forgotten. saw 20 crowds of over 2,000. The knee-jerk reaction high-

lights increased admission from foto £8 (to sit or stand). But last season's prices were the lowest in the Langue, Justifiable, marke, given the performances. Prices would have been even lower had the club maintained its promise to charge £4 it the team did badly. This policy perished as Torquay tell with the au-The club's explanation for

now charging £8 is nevel; the original figure was £7.50 until a fans forum coled to the extra 50p. J M Keynes, standing in front of me, calculates 5,000 at £6 is more than 2.000 at £8. This isn't a bad theory considering decent Torquay teams portually draw 5,000 crowds. JMK's view - we are dead in the long run - means he is yet to consider next season's prices. We need to be mindful of the

impact of away fans. Grafted on to 2,000 home lans, visitors bringing 50, rather than the last lot's 500, reduces the crowd by 20 per cent. This can hide true trends but not, I feel, in this case. There are definitely lewer of us. Live television? You've heard it before, but lower division

clubs are most susceptible. And

while midweek European games

barely affect the Premier League

and First Division, crowds drop

throughout the Third Division.

At Torquay the balance sheet's significance has been greater than the League table for years. The annual £200,000 sale to a big club is good business; but selling four £50,000 players to other Third Division clubs represents lack of ambition.

Torquay is a club associated more with its owner. Alike Bateson, than any player or manager. I have supported and opposed, understood and misunderstood him, offered defeno against his detractors and disagreed with his problets. After six years I'm that confused I can now only judge him by the team's re sults. At the moment he is OK.

But there are those who bit terly recall some of last season's events; home terraces given to Plymouth supporters after a solumn promise was broken: MB's contemptuous attitude culminating in a laddisb magazine purading an "nur supporters are complete dickheads' quote: his award of a new con-

to the rumour that Stevenage' economic considerations.

winning team attracts the fans?

Thursday he was exemplary. out of the competition. Down defend like that against the Pushed ahead of Patrik Berger 2-0 after 22 minutes at Anfield top sides in Europe. Taking when Liverpool went 2-0 down,

MAJOR WEEKEND FOOTBALL FIXTURES AND POOLS CHECK

TODAY 3.0 unless stated **FA Carling Premiership** P W B L F A PG Mart Here 11 2 5 5 4 1-110 4 7 7 16 L Aston Villa : Nothingham Forest

2 Derby v Lecester 5 Sheffeld Wed v Southampton ...

tract to his son-in-kiw, arguably the least popular player in years. This description gave rise leading woret was punner-up in our player of the year award. Most adopt a more charitable attitude now, with the exception of feelings towards a certain player. The Phynouth decision, for example, was hard to swallow but there were safety, and possibly,

Nevertheless, I suspect 1,800 of us can understand why another 500 or so are staying away but does Mike Bateson? Strangele, had there been a fixed 1. charge throughout last season we'd probably now be playing to crowds of 2.500 or more

Economies and logic (as applied to football) are, after all mexict sciences. Pricing may not be the only factor but a review would be more than an economic gesture. Whoever said a

Aston Villa v

Derby v

Leicester

Sunderland

Man Utd v

Cheisea

rottenham v 💥

West Ham

Wimbledon v Arsenal

11 Oxford Utd v lpsauch 18 Workes - Barrisley

22 Milhali v Viaisa)

Nationwide League First Division 8 Botton v Huddersheld Bradford Cd; v Oldham ... 10 Norwell v Charlton .

34 Fulham v Lincoln.... 13 Portsmouth v West Brommet...... 15 Southerd y Reading 18 Samdon v Manchester Cc; 17 Transmere & Costal Palace

19 Bourremouth . Bury 20 Briston Rosers & Grangitam..... 21 Crewe : V: (COTO) 23 Notes County : Strewsbury

24 Peterborough : Blackpool...... 25 Pyrouth v Luton 26 Prestor: v Potherham..... 27 Stockport v Bristol City..... 28 Watford v Brentford..... 29 Wresham v Cresterfeid 30 York : Burnley

Last season: 1-1.

Last season: 0-1.

Last season: 1-1.

Last season: 2-2.

Last season: 0-1.

Last sesson: 0-3.

Sheff Wed v the Last five Lasgue matches: Sheffield Wed DLLDD; Southempton LWDWW.

Sheff Wed v Humphrays is likely to replace Hirst in the nome attack, assessment and Collins are out. Southampton we'come back Monkou after a five-match absence with a call mark.

Last season: did not play.

Third Division 31 Carisle v Wigan ... 32 Colchester v Cardin

 Darkngton v Scarborougi 33 Doncaster v Chester . 25 Hartenood v Brighton. 36 Hereford v Barnet 37 Hull v Cambridge Utd..... 38 Leyton Orient v Torquay .

- Rochdale v Exeter

40 Celtic v Aberdeen ... 41 Hearts v Dunfermine

42 Motherwell v Dundee Utd 43 Rarth v Rangers First Division 44 Chdebank v Fallarh.

Bell's Scottish League Premier Division

48 Greenock Morton v Andre ..

48 String v Partt. ..

TEAM SHEET

Staunton is out. Forest hope Pearce (back) will return.

Last five League matches: Derby DLLDL: Leicester WWLLW.

Last five League matches: Leads LLWLL; Sunderland WLDLW.

Bowyer may return for Leeds after a rune-game absence but Deane tton-silinst and Jobson Heg mjury) are doubtful. For Sunderland, Quinn (knee) and Agnew (ankle) are out, Scott (grow) is doubtful. Ord is suspended.

Last five League matches: Manchester Utd DWWLL: Chelses LDWLW.

Solskjaer is likely to return for United in place of Cruyff or Poborsky, Leboeuf,

Johnsen or Duberry will step in for Chelsea's long-term absentee Lee (broken leg). Vialh (calf) is doubtful, Phelan (thigh) is out.

Last five League matches: Tottenham LLW/I.; West Ham WLLWW.

Last five League matches: Wimbledon WWWWD; Arsenal WWWDW.

Fox (thigh) is doubtful for Spurs but Rosenthal has recovered from a ham-string strain. West Ham strikers Futre and Raducious are out, while de-fender Bowen is doubtful with a groin injury.

Wimbledon are still without McAllister in defence. Arsenal expect Wright to recover from a grow streen, full-becks Direct and Winterburn are also on the mend after knee vigures.

49 Berwick v Harrston - Clyde v Ayrwngston v Dumbarton . Sternbousemer v Oueen of South .

Second Division

tack, principally Steve McMan-

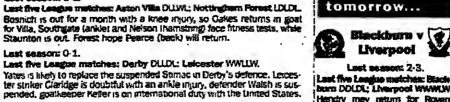
Third Division Albion v Arbroath enbesth v Alloa ... East Stating v Inverness CT ... Montrose v Queen's Park Ross County v Fortar

TOMORROW **FA Carling Promiership**

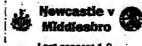
Nationwide League First Division Garasty v Sheffield United (1.0) Scottish League Challenge Cup final

Strawer v St Johnstone (3.0) ..

Other football futures: Page 28



Last five League metches: Black-burn DDLDL; Liverpool WWW.W. Hendry mey return for Rovers sust four weeks — 8 formight shead of schedule — after a groin operation. Sutton, who has missed two games, and Gafacher are also available. Liverpool, chasing a seventh win in eight League games, are expected to restrutie their defence after letting in three goals against Sion on Thursday.



Last season: 1-0. Last five League metches: New-castle WWWWL; Middlesbrough

Except for their long-term absen-tegs, Shearer and Howey, New-cestie have a full squed aveilable. Beardsley is due to make his TOOM League appearance. Mind diestrough's captain, Pearaon, is doubtful after suffering con-cussion against Wintelston last week – Whyte is on standby.

Bradford turn to Scandinavian trio

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

The Norwegian international Ole Bjorn Sundgot, who part-nered Manchester United's Ole Gunnar Solskjacr at Molde, and Swedish duo Robert Stiener, a striker from Norrkoping, and Magnus Pehrsson, a midfielder from Djurgaardens, go straight into the reckoning for Bradford City's bottom of the First Division meeting with Oldham at Valley Parade today.

City slid to 23rd after losing 4-0 at home to Crystal Palace on Tuesday and will find themselves bottom if Oldham follow their 3-0 midweek win at Grimsby with another victory. Botton - three points ahead

of Norwich at the top - have doubts over striker Nathan Blake (ankle) and Gudni Bergs-son (thigh) for the visit of Hud-dersfield, who give a second start to Simon Davies, on loan from Manchester United.

Norwich entertain fourth-bottom Charlton while third-placed Crystal Palace visit Tranmere. Swindon, in 10th, play Manchester City, who could come up against their former player Steve McMahon, now player-manag-er of the Wiltshire club.

The Second Division leaders. Brentford, now only a point clear after they slumped 2-1 at Bristol Rovers and nearest rivals Millwall beat Blackpool by the same score in midweek, visit Watford, while Walsall visit The Den. And in the Third Division Fulham will seek a 13th victory in 17 games at the expense of Lincoln at Craven Cottage, while second-placed Cambridge go to Hull.

The country's bottom club, Brighton, are banning supporters from buying tickets for the main stand at the Goldstone Ground in a bid to deal with mounting crowd unrest. The restrictions will come into force for the visit of Mansfield next Saturday.

Stark return for Gascoigne

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

After a week when, despite not playing against Ajax in the Champions League, Paul Gascoigne has remained the focus of media attention, the England midfielder returns to the Rangers line-up today in the bumble surroundings of Stark's Park, Kirkcaldy, writes Rupert Metcalf.

Gascoigne will play against Raith Rovers after his midweek suspension as Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, also welcomes back Richard Gough, Alex Clcland and Craig Moore. Brian Laudrup is doubtful, however, with both flu and a groin strain.

Smith has dismissed as "pure speculation" media reports that Kenny Dalglish is considering an offer to join Rangers as the

head of their scouting network, and that his left-back, David Robertson, is about to move to Middlesbrough.

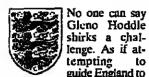
Celtie entertain Aberdeen in front of a 50,000 sell-out crowd at Parkhead. Tommy Burns, the Celtic manager, has an injury crisis to cope with. Pierre van Hooijdonk, Andreas Thom. Paul McStay, Phil O'Donnell, Jorge Cadete. Stuart Gray and Marc Anthony are all out, so Chris Hay, 22, and John Paul McBride, 17, may taste firstteam action. The English defender Alan Stubbs will captain Celtic for the first time.

Strangaer will play in the final of a major tournament for the first time in their 126-year history when they face St Johnstone tomorrow at Clyde's Broadwood Stadium to decide the destiny of the Scottish League Challenge Cup.

'I'm ready now to become a manager, but I'll only take up the right job for me' Chris Waddle talks to Ian Stafford in Monday's 28-page sports section

FOOTBALL: FA gives England coach full backing for decision made 'from the heart' while controversial Arsenal pair are recalled

Hoddle takes Gascoigne under his wing



guide England to their first World Cup success on foreign fields were not enough. he yesterday took responsibility for what many would say was an even more daunting task reforming Paul Gascoigne.

The England coach included Gascoigne in his squad to play Georgia in Tbilisi next Saturday despite widespread calls for him to be omitted after allega-tions that he had battered his wife, Sheryl. The subsequent reaction - those protests were renewed - overshadowed the recall of two meo with chequered pasts themselves, Tony Adams and Ian Wright, who replace the injured Gary Pallister and Alan Shearer.

Picking Gascoigne was, said Hoddle, a decision made by his heart rather than his head but he believed the 29-year-old was capable of change. In ao im-pressive display at a packed West London press conference the 39-year-old argued that the decision, taken after extensive talks with Gascoigne, was consistent with, not contrary to, his Christian beliefs.

In an earlier statement the

ENGLAND SQUAD

(Manchester Und), Pearree (Notin ham Forest), Hincheffirfe (Everon, Southgate (Aston Villa), Adams (Arena), Campbell (Tottenham), Mut-vo (Liverpool), Ince (Internazionale) societa (Rangers)

Football Association made it clear that Gascoigne's inclu-sion was Hoddle's decision and that they supported it.

It is, as Hoddle said, the tougher of the two choices. "The easy one," Hoddle said, "would have been to cast him out. People talk about making an example of him and that would have been the quick example. This is the chance to make an example of him in the long term. What a great example to youngsters it would be if he can change, like Paul Mer-soo has, off the back of some of the mistakes he has made.

"If we can make him into a role model, that is more positive than casting him out. I hooestly believe he is capable of change. This has come from the heart - my bead, without knowing the details, told me 'no, cast him out'. I now know the details, I've seeo the reaction from Paul, and I'm saying 'yes'."

Hoddle also made an implied criticism, though not necessarily an intended one, of both his pre-decessor with England, Terry Venables, and Gascoigne's manager at Rangers. Walter Smith.

I have always felt he needed help. If I had bought him for Chelsea two years ago [when he joined Rangers] these things might have been discussed then. but they weren't. I don't condone for one minute what Paul has committee member Jack Wisedone, but I want to give him an man, and Hoddle himself.

opportunity, that is why I have stepped in and made it a personal thing. I made mistakes when I was a kid, others have, Paul Merson has, Paul [Merson] is a good example. He is not over his problem yet but he is well down the road. I do not think he would be in such a good state of mind if the FA had flung him out. There is a lesson there.

"I am sure he and Tony Adams [another recovering alcoholic and former convicted drunk-driver] will have a chat to Paul [Gascoigne] in Georgia. Sometimes life is about learning from your mistakes. Paul

now has the chance to do that.
"If Joe Public had done the same as Paul, and there was no police involved, he would not

Hoddle has made the right de-cision. Where others might have indulged or dismissed Gascoigne rather than face the problem. Hoddle is happy with the pas-toral side of his job. Many years of thinking deeply about his own beliefs have left him better equipped to discuss such matters than most managers.

Hoddle refused to admit this was Gascoigne's "last chance" but it probably is. If he abuses Hoddle's tolerance this time his international career will probably be over. As it is, he may not olay next week. Georgia will be tough opposition in their own, newly independent, country. They are packed with good tech-nical players and England will not be able to afford to waste possession the way Gascoigne has been doing. A midfield trio of Paul Ince, David Batty and David Beckham looks more solid.

Ahead of them Shearer's place is likely to go to Robbie Fowler rather than Wright, but it is still a remarkable recall for the Arsenal striker. Now 32, he has not been involved with England since February 1995 and won the last of his 16 caps two years ago. He has rarely played well for England but oeither has he been given a decent run.

"I can't comment on how be was handled in the past but he is back to his very best," Hoddle said, "It is not about age, If he maintains his form he could still be about come the World Cup."

Wright can also help Gas-coigne reform. Though perpetually in trouble with the FA he no longer has problems off the pitch. Yet be once weot to jail himself and, while it was only five days for the oon-payment of fines, the shock was enough to make him reform his lifestyle.

Hoddle recoociled his decisioo on Gascoigne to his beliefs by adding: "Ooe of the pivotal principles Jesus spoke about was forgiveoess. I don't condone what Paul has dooe but he can change. A few people have -Saul was one of them."

For those not au fait with their Bible this refers not to Frank Saul, the former QPR striker, but to Saul, the persecutor of the early Christians who saw the light on the road to Damascus and became Saint Paul.

Tbilisi is not quite en route to Damascus but at least Gascoigne will be accompanied by three wise men - Keith Wiseman, the chairman of the FA, international



Paul Gascoigne (below) learns of his England selection by Glerin Hoddle (above), announcing his squad yesterday

Photographs: Action Images/Reuter



DOWN

2 Perfect university head;

Bumper conservative

(5) Soloist at the Proms?

(9,6) Spain's old regioo in-cluded course grass (7) Actor's lost lead in film

Bit of Morocco leather

Ruin's preserved,

mock, so they say (7)

shored up, with gallery

Clot, spot of mud, in

The fancy's beat after

everything (7) Fired, male's resilient

sullied blouse (7)

He practically sees

one mile (7)

element? (9) Moderator's inspiration

a Scot (7)

HODDLE'S STATEMENT

Over the past formight, it's widely known I've been as sessing the problems of Paul Gascoigne and his family. Paul and myself have met three times during that period and spoken in depth.

In addition, Paul has attended counselling on several occasions. I was with him on one occasion. Sometimes the meetings lasted as long as five hours. Paul and I have also spent long periods talking on the phone. I believe I now have a clear understanding of the prob-

lems he and his family are experiencing, and that he has sometimes taken with him on to the pitch. Much of what I have learnt has to remain private. I am aware of much that is not — and should not — be public knowledge. My first concern two weeks ago was for Paul and his family. I have been deeply impressed by his determination to address his problems and the progress that he has already made. I believe that with my help.

and that of counselling, we can guide and help both him and his family to go further. I will certainly do everything I can for them. My assessment is that Paul should be in my squad

for the Georgia game on merit." At no time have I - or would I - condone what Paul has done. I expect high standards. I also accept that people are human. When they have a problem, each case has to be assessed on its merits. In this case

Paul and his family need immediate help and support:
Paul knows he has to change in the long term. My aim
is to do nothing in the short term that might turn out
to be unhelpful in the future.

What I'm announcing today is my decision. I'm grateful for the support of the FA chairman and chief executive with whom I've consulted regularly in recent

Everyone's ambition now is to get the result we want

FA'S STATEMENT

Hoddle; has fully considered all the circumstances surrounding Paul Gascoigne's problems in consultation with the FA chair-man, Kelth Wiseman, and the chief executive, Graham Kelly

Glenn's decision, totally en-dorsed- by us, is that Paul should be included in the England squad for next week's visto Georgia.

Glerin has rejected the easy option. He personally believes he can guide, and - with counlling - help Paul Gascoigne and his family with their current waste no time in doing so. '

The Football Association, as sidered the interests of the game as a whole. We have some knowledge of private our players to aspire to.

Gasooigne and his family. Clearly we cannot discuss them. But: again we too have chosen not to take the easy option.

. The chairman and the chief executive have been convinced that Glenn's judgement is absolutely the right one given the facts he has been made aware

We don't condone unacceptable personal behaviour. We standards. We also have to accept that people are human, deep-rooted problems. Cru- and that when problems arise, clally, he believes he must each must be assessed on its

We are fortunate to have at is our responsibility, has con- the top of our game many excellent role models. Their standards are those we expect all;

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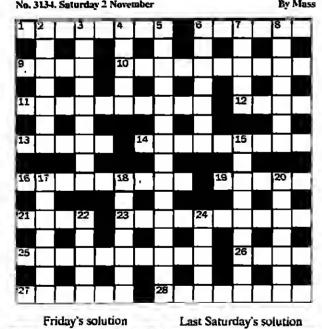
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ACROSS

Digs for coins (8) One staying in new ho-tel in Flint? (6) Drink? One's added to lepression (4) Declining award.

trendy, cast in silver Neckwear's in good nick 6 after first of washes (4-

There's point in State backing for informer (5) 15 Uproars evoking comlaints (9) Casts around eddying

around Italy (4)

river's young plants (9) Patent settled on time Toss old round coin (4)

Maybe only Spain capti-vates English islander (10) (5) 25 His job's on the line (10) 24 New chests? Those that A journey, endlessly

boring (4) 27 Ascetic soul, but not cold (6)

 \mathbf{n}

22 down in yesterday's puzzle should have read

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the new edition of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, E. O. Box 4018, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London El4 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Lasi week's winners: Bernard Rogers, Markoy, Mavery, Church Stretton; M Wood, Bromborough: C Ventham, Gillingham: M Goldfinch, Bath.

Gooch interested in job as chairman

Cricket

NICK HARRIS

Graham Gooch emerged as the favourite to be the next chairman of the England selectors yesterday after the other likely candidate, David

Graveney, withdrew.
Confirming that he was interested in taking up the position in succession to Ray Illingworth, the 43-year-old former England captain said: "I am contracted to play for Essex next season, but I would have to give the matter serious thought if I was approached to be Eng-

land's chairman." Gooch's apparent willingness to give up his long and highly successful playing career indicates the seriousness with which he is consider-ing the potential appointment. "I don't think it is possible to be both a player and serve as chairman," he added.

Graveney made it clear yesterday that he would not be in the running for the position after learning that the Professional Cricketers' Association, of which he is secretary, would oot support his candidature.

"I sensed there was not 100 per cent support for me running as chairman, so I'm stepping aside," he said. "My first loyalty is to the PCA - I fully respect

The role of chairman of job by the authorities and was described as a 'high profile, high-pressure' post by a work-ing committee of the Test and County Cricket Board this summer, when they drew up recommendations about how it

should operate.

The position will be filled next March when an appoint-ment is made by the England Management Advisory Committee. This committee will he made up of six senior members of the English Cricket Board, which replaces the TCCB as the English game's ruling body on

I January.
The TCCB's media relations officer, Richard Little, admitted that Gooch would be one of the candidates to succeed Illingworth when the committee announce their decision.

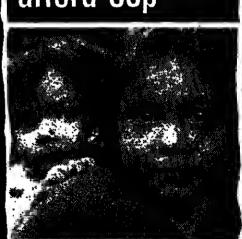
"I am certain that Graham Gooch will be in the running for the chairman of selectors' post," he said. "But then I'm sure certain other people will be in contentioo as well.

"Six wise men will decide who the job is going to be offered to. It's down to them to decide who they want for the post and then. to approach them and offer them the job."

No other name but Gooch is being mentioned at the mo-

England A struggle, page 26

Poverty is when you can't afford 50p



poorest parts of the world. Never to have eaten a decent meal, never to have drunk clean water and never to have

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These I would like to sponsor a child and an ☐SS (monthly) ☐ ENG (yearly) 1 can'l sponsor a child now, but enclose a gift of:

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NT · SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER L. right job for me rts section

pair are recalled



Harvesting grapes at Lamberhurst Vineyard in Kent on Wednesday. Photograph taken by David Rose on a Nikon FM2, 24mm lens, Fujl 200 film

Photographs, Actor Integess ATEMENT

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We are foliumate to the top of our game no cettent role models. The durids are those we es-



rates? Barely survived the witchly threats of Halloween? Unprepared for a sparkling bonfire night? one players to aspire w Just lie back in safety and read our tales of the testing pleasures of the Congo and the nigh-orgasmic delights of a trip up the Niger. Or if you are of a more home-and-hearth type, imbibe a beguiling account of a walk in Gloucestershire – no injections required. Or else just unsheathe that combat knife and peel

yourself a grape.

Exhausted by the nation's

by the rise in interest

moral panic? Impoverished

interview



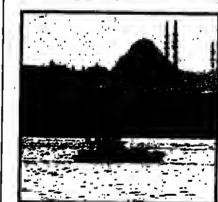
John Walsh meets **Graham Swift**

The new Booker laureate talks about sea trout, Samarkand and a 15-year wait for success

page 3

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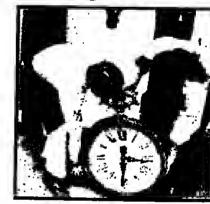
The infinite pleasures of Istanbul

Even after 40 years of rampant redevelopment, the largest city in Europe manages to remain supremely beautiful

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How to win in the antiques market

Should you sell privately or at auction? And how do you get an accurate valuation for your heirlooms?

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Artist of the exploding world

Lights, music, action: Mik Amabilino. pyrotechnician par excellence, shows off his amazing firework displays

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ACTIONAID



Whatever happened to The Sinclair C5?

The moment: On 10 January 1985, the Formula 1 bathtub was born. The love child of entrepreneur and technical genius Sir Clive Sinclair, the C5 made its first tentative journey in London traffic under the critical eye of a cynical press. The CS was a confused and dangerous hybrid of a small car and a bicycle. Described as the most expensive tricycle ever, it was lightweight with a single seat and was powered by both battery and pedalling. This meant that it was invisible to lorry drivers, while the driver choked on the exhaust fumes of less environmentally-friendly vehicles as it weaved in and out of the traffic.

The background: Clive Sinclair was a renowned inventor before he tried to turn himself into a motor-industry mogul, His lasting fundamental contribution to technological progress was the pocket calculator. At under £60 it was a masterpiece of miniaturisation, and made his personal fortune. He also brought us the home computer at an affordable price; in the late 70s and early 80s, when a computer consisted of a room of spinning magnetic tape, this was simply an absurd idea. The ZX Spectrum changed all that. We have Sir Clive to thank for all those bours spent playing Pacman and Space Invaders.

The effect: The C5 pleased no one. On launch day, the AA condemned it as a "hazard to the occupant and other road users". One motoring critic said it had "severe limitations", another that it was a "fun-machine that can hardly be regarded as serious, everyday, all-weather transport". As problems arose, partial solutions were invented. A "High-vis Mast" appeared. which made the resemblance to a radio-controlled toy even more striking. It was the last thing a lorry driver would see before crashing into you. A seat booster tried to lift the driver above the exhaust pipes, and side-panels were added to keep the nether regions dry on the long uphill pedals.

Moments of subsequence: Despite his best efforts, Sir Clive was unable to salvage the C5. Within months of the launch, production had stopped, and the company went into receiverof the year. The transformation respected inventor to the ridiculed creator of a national joke was instantaneous. Sir Clive's contributions to technological progress were glossed over, and ever since he has been remembered as the man who invented the reclining bed on wheels.

He tried again nearly a decade later to create a revolutionary battery-powered form of transport - the Zike, History repeated itself, and memories of the failed C5 lingered in the public's mind, It was launched in August 1992, and by May 1993 the manufacturers had already announced they were stopping production. But now the CS is back in fashion as a collector's item. Last week. Maurice Levensohn announced that he had sold nearly 7,000 of the trikes - at up to £700 each - that he bought after the venture collapsed in 1985. Many of these have gone to Holland, where they are at home on the flat cycle paths. You can get hack on your Zike now. Sir Clive.

Sam Coates

heavenly are Blair's planets sweet?

ovember 5th will once more see The Guy burned in effigy, despite recent attempts at his rehabilitation by Antonia Fraser. It will also be Election Day in the United States, as it is on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every four years. With Clinton's 20-point lead in the polls, Hillary will not be conjuring the spirit of Eleanor Roosevelt to divine the winner.

As to our general election. I can't see what all the fuss is about. Astrologers could replace polisters altogether, if only they had better spin doctors. Since most pundits now consider May Day the most likely election date, any astrocomputer worth its salt should be able to

predict the result: all one needs to do is look at the position in the sky of the planetary messenger Mercury for 2 May to see who gets good news and who bad on the morning

Interestingly, that date

does throw up some

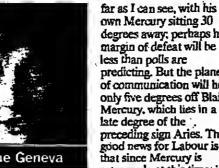
intriguing results, astrally speaking, if Who's Who is correct about the candidates' birthdays. Looking at his planets generally, Blair's stable (if driven and somewhat weird) planetary array shows not a hint of Satanic influence, despite Saatchi's best efforts. And with the Tory leader's Saturn hitting his Mars, Blair probably finds Major something of a wet blanket - even in addition to the obvious



- kisses Blair's moon, which should bring him all kinds of luck - especially for high political office, one of Jupiter's fields of command. Since Blair's hirthday falls on 6 May, it is his time of year anyway. As for newsy little Mercury, it is sitting in the first degree of Taurus on 2

reasons.

On 1 May the planet
Jupiter – the Great Benefie good news for Major, as



degrees away; perhaps his margin of defeat will be less than polls are predicting. But the planet of communication will he only five degrees off Blair's Mercury, which lies in a late degree of the preceding sign Aries. The good news for Labour is that since Mercury is retrograde at this time, it is actually moving backwards towards their leader's planet. So Blair could be the man of the moment but only after some delay.

Long ago. Plato identified the phenomenon of retrograde motion - a Planet overtaking the earth's orbit gives the appearance of moving backwards in the sky - as the problem which astronomers needed to solve. Soothsayers always

found it highly significant as well. For our purposes, a retrograde Mercury on Election Day threatens to overturn results or confound expectations,

This may sound good for Major, but it is more likely to enhance the possibility of a hung Parliament. And since Ashdown's Mercury was retrograde when he was born, be seems to fit in best with this manifestation, and may just get to sway the balance. The moon on his sun at midnight of Election Day could see a big change

in his status, and Jupiter near his Venus could make him everyone's sweetheart. There may not be anything to astrology, but John Major might be well advised to consider calling the election for another day - just in case.

Agey sentiments at the

top. Then a name caught

Group: purportedly the

Venezuelan missionary

who started the thing. I

knew anything about it.

Then I looked again.

my career in crosswords, I

know an anagram when I

fingertips. Death plagues

sunroom. The proud souls

manage. Glad men pat our

houses. Then, once I got

horripilant: THE PAGE DAMNS OUR SOUL

Thanks, friend, whoever

Great Goosebump city.

PAGE, it was easy, if

see one. I got out the

spread under my

Scrabble letters. Words

Having spent a chunk of

wondered if the Pope

my eye. Samuel Anthos de

in addition

here are some people who write to this newspaper whenever we mention any number that is divisible by 42. There are some journalists who insert multiples of 42 into their writings just to keep the fortytwophiles on the hook. This week, however, there has been another numerical coincidence. One day, John Major and Gillian Shepherd were at sixes and sevens over the merits of giving school miscreants six of the best, and the next day Kenneth Clarke increased the bank rate. And

what did he increase it to? Six per cent! This week also, Trevor Mitchell set a world record for the number of haircuts given in an hour. Was it six? Well, no. it was 18, but six was the number of people the barber Robert Hardie shaved in one minute in 1909. Yes, six has undoubtedly been the number of the week-

Six is, after all, a perfect number. Euclid knew it was perfect, because it is equal to the sum of the integers that divide it exactly: 1, 2 and 3. And St Augustine wrote that "six is a number perfect in itself". For, he explained, God created all things in six days because this number is perfect. And it would remain so even if the work of six days did not exist.

Six is, after all, the number of: sides on a snowflake; deaths caused by the Great Fire of

London: bottles in a rehoboard: months spent by the average American waiting for red traffic lights to

change; pints capacity of the average ten-

gallon hat esc-a-laying

feet in a fathom: characters in search of an author; pips in the BBC time signal; impossible things Lewis Carroll's Red Queen sometimes believed before breakfast;

and recorded accidents in the home in the UK in 1994 involving a hidet, Six is also the ratio of the earth's

gravity to that of the moon. And just think: if old Rehoboam, son of Solomon and king of Judah, had not, in the 10th century BC, presided over a split in the Jewish nation into Israel and Judah, middle-eastern history might have been different and we might not have

had the Six Day War in 1967. And if any dichard fortytwoists are still unconvinced, just take the word "six", add the numerical values of its letters, 19+9+24 to get 52, add 5+2 to get 7, multiply by the number you started with: $6 \times 7 = 42$. Uncanny.

William Hartston

earthly why should I join the chain gang?

his morning I thought it was funny, but that was then. Nestled on the mat in the rainy light, midst gas and Access hills, was a white envelope. On the front, my name and address on an anonymous, printed label, Inside, a sheet of white photocopier

paper. And on it a curse. WITH LOVE ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE," said the block capitals at the top, then, "This letter has been sent to you for good luck. The original is in New England. It has been around the world nine times ... You will receive luck within four days, providing you sent it out".

The usual guff. I am always amused by chain letters: they represent the essence of human gullibility: excellent Federation of World Post

IS THIS A

DAGGER

OR A KITCHEN KNIFE I SEE

BEFORE ME?

Offices. I love the fact that they have all been round the world nine times, no more, no less. This letter mentions an incident in 1953. If I were to follow its instructions, and send out 20 copies, 81.92 hillion people would receive it in time for Christmas.

The block capitals

resumed at the hortom, **"DO NOT IGNORE** THIS. FOR SOME STRANGE REASON IT WORKS," I skimmed back. Promises, promises. An RAF officer received \$70,000, a man received £40,000 and lost it when he broke the chain. Another won \$2m on the lottery after his secretary sent out copies. Don't really see why the person

shouldn't have got the money, but there you go. I once responded to a chain letter: the Chain of

who did the work



Serena Mackesy

Gold. It promised that, if I sent a quid to the person at the top of the list and added my wishes to the bottom, I would receive at least £40,000. The recipient of my £1 wanted to "use it to spread love in the world". No 2 wanted to "experience other cultures", No 3 to "save my children from starving". Oh, please: in Leeds, love? I scrawled my own wish: "I want more

bought several more with that sort of dough in the

he forgot. A woman in California broke the chain, was plagued with car repair bills and won a new one when she resumed it. Then there was Gene Welch in the Philippines, He, and I quote, "lost his wife after receiving the letter which failed to circulate. However, before her death he had received \$7.773.000". It doesn't say if Gene was upset about his wife. He could have

shoes than Imelda

Marcos". I'm still waiting.

This letter continued with warnings. Carl Deddin lost his joh when

Philippines, anyway. There was something in the tone of this letter, though, that I found ominous. Too many threats, and promises of earthly gifts, for the New

Kerber's Week

WERE THE MORAL VIKINGS.

WE'VE COME TO

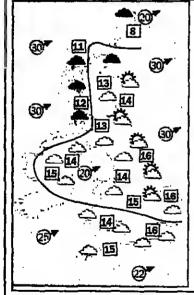
CLEAN UP

YOUR

you are. Remind me to send you a bag of chicken innards. So I'm damned if I do, damned if I don't. Ay, Papa, isn't it time you got your church in order?



weekend weather



General Situation and Five-Day Outlook

A deep depression just to the north of Scotland will move away to the north-east, but only as a developing low comes in from the west.

Today, eastern Scotland will get some sunshine, but also a scattering of showers. The rest of Scotland and the islands are going to get some rain, and it will be windy everywhere. Northern Ireland will be cloudy with rain to come, and it will be windy. The northern half of England and Wales will get some bright weather with just a scattering of showers. To the south, it will be cloudier with showery rain, and there will be a gusty southwest wind everywhere. Sunday will be another windy day with showers.

especially in the north and west, although the wind is going to ease later. Wet and windy weather is then going to sweep across the country on Monday with sleet or snow likely over the Scottish hills. Tuesday will then see cold north-west winds and showers, with snow for many northern hills. Wet and windy weather should return on Wednesday with some heavy rain,

		<u>. </u>	 22	╛	!	rui r Chui	TSL	rth-west wind lay with a mis	is x c	are of s	exp	ec un	ted to be base and show	ck	bу	
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You'd have to look hard to find a smaller fare.

Contact your local travel agent or call for details on

0345 554554 or 0345 I FLY

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A406 Greater London, Between Henlys

Corner (AL/A598) and Finchley (A1000 High Road), carriageway reduced to just

one lane between the Al Falloden Way

M5 Gloocestershire. Between J 17 (Beis-

tol West) (A4018/B4055 Cribbs Cause-

way) and J 20 Clevedon (B3133), road-

works, contraflow, 50mph speed limit in

both directions across the Ascumouth

M4 Moomouthshire, Between I 23A

Magor (B4245 Magor services) and J 24

Newport (East) lane closed and 50 moh speed limit for major widening work. Expect delays, especially at rush

Out and about with AA Roadwatch cal 0336 401 for the latest local and re-bond tratic news. Source: The Automobile Association. Calls charged at 38p per min (cheep rate) 49p per min (all other times)

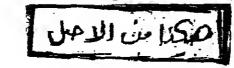
bridge. Expect rush hour delays.

and Finchley.

The sky at about 9.00 p.m.
The Milky Way stretches overhead from the east to west

he waning crescent of the Moon rises long after nightfall - about 10.30pm tonight, and not until well after 3.0am by the end of the week. Take advantage of the dark, moonless evenings to look for the Milky way arching across the sky from east to west. Its hazy glow is the combined light of some of the 100 hillion stars that make up our own Galaxy.

If it were not for the great white clouds of dust between the stars, the Milky Way would look very much brighter. The dust is so dense in places, the Milky Way seems to be broken up by dark lanes and patches where the starlight is completely obscured. Scanning along the Milky Way with himochlars was are likely to be a seemed to be a nlars, you are likely to be rewarded with the sight of some



عكذا من الاحو

here are some people who will be this new spaper whenever we incident any number that is deal. There are some journalist whit multiples of 42 into then with keep the hertytwophiles on the Thr. week, however, there has megher numerical conteidence lay, John Major and Gillian feld were at sixes and sevensing erits of piving school infectioning best, and the next day Kenneh e increased the bank rate And hal he mercuse it has six per any sweek aku, hevor Mitchell on resold for the number of haids ut in hour. Was it siv. Well not

that many was the number of post that Robert Flarche shaved ince e in 1919. Yes six his undoubled he number of the week. is, after all, a perfect number, Haten it was perfect, because it to the sum of the integers that it exactly: 1, 2 and 3, And Si tioe wrote that "six is a number t in itself". For, he explained created all things in six days se this impiber is perfect. Andiremain so even if the work if & id not evist."

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Say Day War to 1/67 if any dichard reconsisting onvinced, just take the wordled the numerical values ones, 404,24 to get 50 odo 542ms. ply by the number you stated 42. Uncanos

William Hartston





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have characters of the state with park - 128 that tries the first the first that William is the first that the firs while the diameter gine Mule We was and with the most of

Switt, eventually

John Walsh meets... Graham **Swift**

n Tuesday evening, Graham Swift, accompanied by his lnng-term partner Candice Rodd, dined nn herb-crusted lamh cutlets and raspberry délice at London's ancient Guildhall, talked in several friends in the publishing and literary-journalism demi-monde, had several drinks, went to a party at the fashinnable Soho House around midnight, had a nightcap or two, and returned hame in their hause in Wandsworth in find 37 messages on their answering machine, and the finnr of Swift's study thickly carpeted with spewed-out fax paper. They got to bed at 3.30am. Graham was back on his feet at 6 am, to be taken by car to the BBC's radio headquarters, Broadcasting House, to be grilled by the hard-hitting John Humphrys, about whom he considered to he the world's leading writers. His voice croakily issuing from his boots. Swift was reluctant to reply. "I don't want to name names right now," he told the Today inquisitor. "And why," snapped Humphrys, "are you not prepared to name the world's leading writers?"
"Because I have a huge hangover," declared the eloquent new holder of the Booker Prize.

Such are the overnight traumas you have to expect when you win the nation's top fiction award: fame, £20,000 in your current account, projected sales of 100,000 in hardback, international publicity tour, media saturation and a blizzard of questions from idiol interviewers ("Are you related to Jonathan?"). Swift will, you can be sure, walk through it all with his hahitual sangfroid and raised-eyebrow politeness, conscious of what a narrow squeak he had 13 years ago, when his third novel, Waterland, was shortlisted but lost out to JM Coetzee's Life and Times of

"It was a wooderful time, 1983," he Young Brilish [novelists - Swift was one of the 20] promotion, and the Booker with the low-key working-class sarcasm, nomination. It was great. But I was quite the tidal wave of beer consumed by the glad I didn't win, because the whole thing protagonists, the allusions to "Billy Hill" might have knocked me topsy-turvy. Now the bookies, and the miniutiae of Lon-I think I can handle all that winning the don's war? Swift's novel is a deeply skil-Bonker Prize might entail, better than I ful multi-voiced meditation on life, luck, could have then." He considered his betrayal and redemption, an unclassifiglass of Moët et Chandon. "I just can't tell. you how thrilled I am to have won."

A lot of Moet and associated liquids have disappeared down the Swiftian oesophagus today and, by 4pm in the ruinously expensive Mimmo d'Ischia restaurant, hard by his publishers' headquarters in Victoria, he is looking a little tuckered out - as if a little snooze right here on the tablecloth might not be a bad idea. But he is a game bird, Mr Swift, loyal to his quaffing partners as he is unfailingly courteous to interviewers, punctilious about appointments with obscure radin shows and generous to his readers whom he publicly thanked in his acceptance speech at the Guildhall.

"It's one uf the ironies of the writer's trade," he said, "that the very people we depend nn most we seldnm get to see, let alone meet, and yet we expect from them a remarkable intimacy, that they curl up with us and even take us in bed... Novels are unt meant for such grand and public occasions as this: they are meant for that intimate, silent, invisible hut potentially magical point of contact between the

reader and the page."
Surely, I suggested, this was a ludicrously romantic view of readers, who definition of my hirthplace.") There were tend to he (if I'm anything to go by) lazy, wide-boy secondhand car dealers like idle, grunting, feckless, easily distracted penple who pick up books and put them lack Dodds on his doorstep. Choosing to down with dizzy abandon, fall asleep over them and sometimes don't finish them... Swift regarded me with heavy patience, like the schoolmaster he once was. "I'm talking about real readers, the ones who read my books from start to finish." Where did his readers write to him from? "All over the world. The first fireign translation of Last Orders is out already, and it's in Norwegian. The most recent rights agreement was yesterday the less, it is the way English is spoken and it was from Brazil, therefore a trans-there... latinn into Portuguese. I can see trouble ahead for translators, but it haso't stopped publishers wanting to translate it. Fifteen, last count."

a pilgrimage made by four ageing Cockneys from their native Bermondsey to ful multi-voiced meditation on life, luck, able masterpiece in a minnr key. But wasn't it a little too Londonish to travel meaningfully?

"Yes of course, it's a very local book," Swift said. "But I have a very strong faith that the key to the universal is the local. If you want your book to travel, don't write a kind of avowedly global, universal, cosmopolitan, Esperanto book. Write something local and if you write well, the universal will take care of itself." His large dark eyes gleamed, their pupils massive with the pleasure of success. 'All experience is local, governed by place and local conditions. We all understand that. And if some local allusinns escape you in a novel set in, say, Chicago, it doesn't matter, it adds to the texture of experience. So if you want to write for the world, in a way don't write for the world. Write for the Here and the There will take care of itself."

Swift grew up in the same south London backyard as Vince, Vic, Lenny and Ray, the voices of Last Orders. ("I've variously said to people who've asked me that it was Catford, Forest Hill, Sydenham or Lewisham, hut it's all just south-east London to me. I simply do not know the hear it in your ear. Dunnit?" wide-boy secondhand car dealers like and Swift's own life is the jar nf Jack Jack Dodds nn his doorstep. Choosing to give them a voice, however, involved Swift in a technical minefield. "If you set a book in Glasgow or Newcastle, you use the local patois or dialect. London is tricky, because it's the metropolis and there are all kinds of preconceptions about London. And the ordinary street language of south London has all these comedic associations - with music hall, 'the Lambeth Walk'... It's automatically stagey. None

Some of Swift's critics (including Germaine Greer on Booker night) felt shortchanged that he hadn't made more of so alien to ours, of 'Get yourself a steady London slang, hadn't written in more of joh, stick to it, draw your pension. And

Trouble, indeed. What will the Norse- a picturesque idiolect. Instead of dropping he did. He retired very early. He enjoyed a picnic. He went up to Cambridge to read tive spark, the style and most of all the men make of the Booker-winning tale of aitches, however, or adopting the excruciating phonetics beloved of Shaw and O' Casey ("Aow, hloimey, Sargint..."), Swift remembers. "Not only was Waterland Margate Pier, to scatter into the sea the adopts the simple expedient of allowing published, but there was the Best of ashes of their old friend Jack Dodds? his Cockneys to say "aint", and letting this his Cockneys to say "aint", and letting this one linguistic detail stand for the whole non-standard churus in the back of Vince's Merc. "Yes, I was selective with the words I decided to use. If I'd written "ave' and ' 'aven't' over and over again, it would've looked terribly off-putting on the page." Had he got any reaction from south Londoners? "Someone who loved the book wrote to me and said, 'You were depends on how you read it, and how you

a pensionable existence for some time before... before he left."

Graham Swift: 'If you want to write for the world, in a way don't write for the world. Write for the Here and the There will take care of itself'

legacy of the classroom, he often falls into a magisterial, periphrastic mode which he then subverts with a large grin. Thus, when you ask what his brother does, Swift will say, "He works in the ... pharmaceutical industry" (grin) leading you to conclude, wrongly, that his hrother's a drug dealer. When the boys were still small, the family moved in the nutskirts of the wrong in have someone say "ain't it?" ' metropolis, to Croydon: "I remember the road wasn't tarmac'd, and you could go metropolis, to Croydon: "I remember the smiled. "I wrote hack and said, 'Il all round the corner and there were fields, which were gradually huilt over. We were

'I never felt very grateful to my school, didn't want to be what they wanted to make me'

One correspondence between the novel Dodds's ashes that gets passed around the four travellers, gets forgotten, remembered, fought over, put into plastic bags and endlessly shifted about until it acquires the status of a character. Swift's father died four years ago, and was like-wise cremated, "but it's not about his death," says the son patiently. "He wasn't a hutcher..." He was, in fact, a civil servant, who worked at the Dickensianlytitled National Debt Office, took the 8.15am train to the City every morning ("though not in a bowler hat exactly") and returned at 6pm. "He did that most of his life except in the war, and most of the time

on the edge of London in a very graphic way - you went mne way, it was the town. you went the nther way, it was country."
He went to Dulwich College, the public school once attended (1900 and 1901)

by Raymond Chandler and PG Wodehouse. Despite numerous invitations in address his alma mater. Swift has never been back. Had he had a had experience there? "I never quite knew what they expected or wanted from me, never sure what claims they had on me. I'm not the Head Boy type." But hadn't the school fired him to write? "Oh, I had a couple of very good English teachers, but I never felt deeply grateful to the school. I didn't want to be what they wanted in make me. I didn't do the standard career and become he hated it. But he was of that generation, a doctor or a lawyer. I did an individual thing. I was fighting a corner."

Swift took to the Sixties like a wasp to while superior fictions, lacked the narra-

<u>andrija i karanta da maranta da </u>

English at the end of the Summer of Love. "Enjoyed a pensionable existence" is a 1973," he says proudly, "and if you can very Swiftian thing to say. Due to either think of a better span of years in which a hureaucratic gene in his system or a to be a student..." One looks at his cleancut features and the up-all-night shock of startled hair, and tries to imagine him as a graminiverous hippie. "I was in my prime in the Sixties," he says, "Purple loons, tank tops, experimenting with, ah, substances - I did all the standard things, bumming around the world, althnugh I kand. I had the most awful heard with a horrible patch on nne check."

So the south London boy, with the rus in urbe home, the war-hero-turned-commuter father and the attitude problem about school, became a writer fixated hy memory, landscape, death, failed sons and distant fathers, and the undercurrent of confusinn that threatens the tidiest areas nf human life. The Sweet Shop Owner presented a dying widower waiting for his daughter in return in him. Shunlecock fearured a son investigating his father's secret life in a Kafkaesque government office. *Waterland* tonk the lens of East Anglia and from them extracted great long wriggling eels of stories that long wriggting cells of stories that amounted to a history of England over the last 300 years, told by a failed and desperate schoolteacher. Out of This World concerned a photo-journalist and his neurotic daughter. Ever After fielded another widower who attempts to commit suicide, like his father before him. Now Last Orders takes another hlackly comic look at death-in-the-midst-nf-life. But attempting to talk about Swift's career elicits a spectacular riff about the downside of creativity: "My ambition, my desire to be a writer, began in my early teens. I had a long period of struggle when I hadn't been published, hadn't even seen my name in print, when I wrote stuff and chucked it away, and I wrote stuff and kept it but wouldn't show it to anyone, and I wrote stuff and did show it to someone else and they said. 'We dnn't want it', and I wrote stuff and showed it to other people and they said we do want it, and one day I was writing a navel and got it published. But we're taking about a major fraction of my life here. Before Waterland was published I'd been writing for 15

When Last Orders was published in January, a huge collective sigh of relief could be heard from Swift fans. It was generally held that Out of This World and Ever After.

energy of Waterland, He seemed, to some, "I was a university student from 1967 to to have peaked early and couldn't get back up the mountain. How did he deal with it? "Well, I know remarks of that nature handied about certain quarters," Swift said, in his best

Photo: Philip Meech

Home Office manner, "hut I didn't pay much attenting to them. The problem was that Waterland made such an impression, was such a success, that - as with any success - people want it to be followed up immediately and to the same formula. But never made it to Katmandu nr Samar- I think you should try and do something different every time. Oddly, both the novels that followed it got tremendous receptions abroad. Ever, After won a major prize in France." He took a reflective sip (we'd moved an to grappa) and, embold-ened, said: "I have every laith that, in time. every one of my books will get the recognition it deserves."

Swift's main pleasure, apart from writing exceptional novels and winning major prizes, is fishing. He is a keen course and salmon angler. "more enthusiastic than proficient", with a typically romantic-antiquarian slant on his local river in London. You could live a lifetime in Wandsworth and not notice the River Wandle, except for a battered old sign announcing its presence to the unheeding traffic that mars up West Hill, SW 18. But to Swift, "It flows down from Carshalton into the Thames at Wandsworth. and it was once a magic river, a lovely trout stream. John Donne fished in it. Nelson fished in the Wandle at Merton. when he had only one arm to fish with. Would that it were such a stream now." Instead, he goes to north Devon, "to a particular part of the river which is so peradisaic, I've no intention of revealing it to anyone." His favourites are sea trout. about which he gets very lyrical; "They're related to trout but they head for the sea, then run back up the river like salmon. You fish for them, classically, in high summer, on a warm, muggy evening in July. You go out about half an hour before dusk and, as darkness descends, the sea trout will, if you're lucky, suddenly come up, acrobatically, and take a fly. They'll do it for maybe 20 minutes or half an hour, and if you're there to see them aod to feel an otter swim between your

legs - you re very lucky..."

And there let us leave this picture of perfect happiness - the country's numero uno novelist, the extravagantly nice master of English voices and eternal sentiments, sitting in the dehris of celebration, reflecting nn bliss.

















BOB MILLS' MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY. WATCH 25 YEARS OF BAD HAIR, STRANGE SHIRTS AND GREAT MUSIC VIDEOS.

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Chasing the dinosaur. Redmond O'Hanlon....6 Home sweet Douglas-Home? Patrick Cosgrave investigates..7

The music biz in Senegal is being stirred. Youssou N'Dour has sparked a race to build modern studios and bring in Western ways. Local cassette barons are fighting back. By Philip Sweeney

hen Peter Gabriel took up with Youssou N'Dour 10 years ago, the Englishman became, it is now clear, much more than a purely artistic influence on the young Senegalese singing star. Years of visiting Gabriel's rambling Real World complex in Wiltshire. with its recording studios, record labels, management offices, Womad concert promotion agency, and buzz, have clearly sunk in. As his own career has blossomed, Youssou has acquired the means to build his own empire, and tales of his two nightclubs, recording studios, and now a new record label, Jololi, emerge regularly from Dakar. Did he have a

show-business role model? I asked Youssou in London last



Shakin' the tree

distinct West African style. Take the relatives. N'Dour siblings appear to occupy all key positions. Brother N Diada is engineer at the Studio Xipii, the modest downtown recording facility Youssou

acquired from the son of Senegal's former President Leopold Senghor. Senghor Jr departed Dakar for destinations unknown after leaving the studio an unused and expensive white elephant, half to be impounded by the unpaid landlord and half taken over by Youssou. Youssou's sister, N'Goni N'Dour, manages both the studio and a sister, Ahy N'Dour, was one of the first artistes Yousson recorded.

And here I am in a new green BMW, proceed-ing erratically through the Dakar traffic jams in the hands of Boubacar N'Dour, another brother, and supremo of the new Jololi label for the past 18 months. Boubacar lived in New York for some years, acquiring his excellent English and dabbling in "merchandising Youssou goods" and he still basn't fully re-acclimatised, getting lost from time to time as we drive. Boubacar wears glasses and a little woolly Spike Lee bat and keeps apologising in a proud sort of way for his ruthless NY business style, although be actually seems rather sweet,

He's also rather vague, an N'Dour family characteristic, as anyone who has vainly pumped Youssou "I am not a husiness man, I am an artist" N'Dour for specific details of his numerous projects will attest. "Youssou's very prudent." Boubacar says. "He doesn't like to let people know his strategy until he's up to a position of strength. Lots of people don't know about the holding company..

The holding company, Yousson N Dour Head Office SA, controls, inter alia, Xippi Inc, the recording studio and cassette plant; Saprom, Youssou's tour promotion and concert equipment rental agency; interests in the Thiossane night-clubs Youssou shares with a local soft drinks magnate; and in another nightclub rented from the flash marble beach-side President hotel. And

now the Joioli lahel, Bouhacar's haby, "What are you exactly, Boubacar?" I ask. "General manager?" "Hmm, well, yeah, maybe," says Bouhacar, "or maybe I'm artistic director." And Youssou? "He's artistic director, too." Are you salaried don't know," says Boubacar, and then, we'll see ... ' "Shit, man, where are

we?" veering ahruptly across the traffic flow with a squeal of We arrive at Youssou N'Dour Office Head offices, a rented two-storey veran-

in flowing blue robe, latterly Youssou's communi-cations director (maybe). We talk of Youssou's great renown - "You know the Government of the Republic of Niger called recently and asked him to go and do a concert to raise money to pay their civil servants?" And of the Jololi project, an attempt to create a systematic modern record label, with a coherent artistic policy, in an area where individual producers paying low one-off fees for cheap, quick recordings is the norm. And of finance, but only vaguely. Has Yousson's gold-disc new cassette duplication factory. Another younger selling "7 Seven Seconds" duet with Neneh Cherry provided a cash windfall to underwrite Youssou's current expansion? "I don't think one dollar of recent spending has come with '7 Seconds'," says Boubacar. "It's been more a matter of rationalising and reorganising."

Perhaps, but Youssou's brand-new bouse, to which we repair for a late lunch, took more than rationalising and reorganising to create. Situated in the rich suburb of N Gor hetween the sea and the airport, this is pure Dakar Dallas, a great airy colossus with an open interior stairway allegedly evoking the neck of a kora (a harp-lute), balconies. lawns, dry indoor fnuntains, and a hotel-sized reception area with a grand piano, and numerous around upon in the African style, waiting to be received or to carry out some nebulnus task. Behind the house, another large new building is slowly rising out of the churned red earth. Very slowly, in fact, given that the waterlogged concrete sbell is due to open, in theory, in a matter of weeks as Youssou's new studin, superseding Xippi and bugely upgrading West African recording standards in one fell swoop.
"Xippi II, then?" I ask. "Yeah, maybe, we

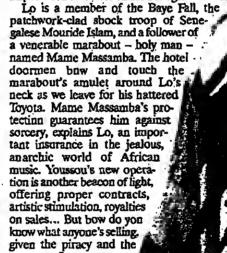
haven't really decided yet," says Boubacar. The cost? "One and a half million francs," says Youssou - a couple of hundred thousand pnunds, an extraordinarily modest sum even bearing in mind African construction costs, which are two or three times cheaper than Europe. The specification? Structurally state of the art, but a slightly less advanced recording console, for rohustness, says the French acoustic engineer, as we sit down to a anarchic world of African delicious fish and rice thieboudienne served by the music. Youssou's new operayoung cook. And the purpose? I ask Ynussou, mindful of uncharitable Dakar gossip to the effect that his existing studin, Xippi I, is rarely used, except by himself. "Sure, it's so I can produce my own project in Africa, in good conditions," says Youssou. but I'm taking a back seat more now and hringing on other artistes."

Filling in time before clubbing at the Thiossane, where Youssou later guest sings in a thrilling percussion-lashed set by a guest mbalax group. I visit one of Youssou's least charitable critics. El Hadj N'Diaye runs Senegal's first recording facility, Studio 2000, its higgest cassette duplication plant, and is sitting proudly in the vast gleaming interior of dah around a a converted Renault factory in central Dakar. It's shortly to open as the "Pyramide Culturelle", a £14m complex of audin and viden studios, nightbenches and piles club and restaurants.

artistes and professionalise the African record industry. "Of course – Peter Gabriel," be replied.

Real Senegalese World, it transpires, retains a record record industry. The state of the first eight or so Jululi cassette to the first eight or so Jululi cassette to the first eight or so Jululi cassette to the replied. "N'Diaya. "No," he replies, "nor for two cassette duplicating factories, and if Youssou goes on young graduate of the University of Connecticut undercutting my cassette prices I'm going to do a dumning elast pur prices till be goes out of business. a dumping - slash my prices till be goes out of business and then reinstate them at current level." Which N'Diave could do, I later confirmed from independent sources, who also said that rivalry between the entrenched establishment N'Diaye and the high-profile newcomer N'Dour is a factor in the new studin race. And that the two new studios are indeed superfluous to current Senegalese requirements, which may be a reason for the burst of Jololi recording, to create a use, in effect, for the new Xippi facilities. Sensible think-ing, but what is Jololi production actually like? I call Boubacar's car phone to try again to get some cassettes and maybe sales figures ("Sure, later today maybe ... What the fuck! ..." followed hy a blast of car boxus) and bead for Youssou's other ightclub to see the Jololi Review, the label's new

flagship touring unit, rehearsing for Europe. Whatever else Youssou may be criticised for, it is never his music. Sitting smoking in an armchair, mike in hand, his singing is as tense and soulful as ever, and the musical mix from a halfdozen key Super Etoile musicians is sweet and assured, more acoustic than usual. Yandé Kodou Sene, the elderly praise-singer resurrected by Inloli, is absent in Paris, but the label's other star, suites of ornate furniture for people to bang Cheikh Lo, is present, dreadlocks swinging, his own agile voice complementing Ynusson's. Cheikh Lo's debut cassette "Ne La Thiass" bas made him a star in Dakar and done well for Jololi, having been bought for international CD release by the UK label World Circuit, who see it as an important new direction for Senegalese music.



agueness' Difficult," admits Cheikh Lo, "Probably the only man whn really knows is Tialla Diagne. And so to Tialla Diagne's, by common consent the biggest cassette distributor in Senegal, the

man who actually

settes on to the streets, but is also himself a producer. Diagne has a warehouse with 10 million cas-settes somewhere, but operates from a kiosk the size of two phone boxes in Sandanga market. He looks about 14, is illiterate and speaks through an interpreter. Jololi cassettes are good quality, medium sellers, he says, but be himself produced six times as many albums last year. And he's planning a series of "megastores", with government backing, across the country, adds the interpreter. Not planning a studio, by any chance, I ask? Tialla Diagne smiles, with a look that says, "No, but El Hadj and Youssou bad better watch out if ever I do." "Ne La Thiass" by Cheikh Lo, is released this week

on World Circuit Records. The Jololi Review, with Youssou N Dour (left), Cheikh Lo (right) and others, opens

Personalities you can twust



or clarity's sake, a drama that looks like the nursing sibling of Soldier Soldier should really he called Sister Sister. As titles go, though, Staying Alive (ITV, Fri) says almost as much: a bit on the melodramatic side, but then the series looks that way inclined too. As if running an advertisement of travails to come, it rushed you straight in with a student nurse attempting suicide. This hospital is so grim, even the staff are dying to get out.

In the end, the body count from the opening hour was confined to just the two. And one of those was a dispensable old dear wbose cards were marked the minute a nurse on her first day promised to pop in and say hello after her sbift.

You just knew the poor innocent would turn up at the same time as the tin trolley from the mortuary: in timetabled dramas like this, where sex, crisis, violence and death fill the screen on a rota hasis, these four-wheeled messengers of mortality are as reliable as Mussolini's trains. This is a teaching hospital, after all, and corpses are wonderful instruction aids: nurses have to learn to towel down the

wet patch behind their cars. There was another, much less artificial, scene when the same nurse was sent by a doctor to look for something left next to a bed. While rummaging, the nurse nattered absently to its occupant without at first realising that he was dead. Here she underwent the rite of passage negotiated by all hospital workers confronting their first stiff: like the cloak attendant who fools the punters at Madam Tussauds, they're essentially waxworks, but somehow they're so lifelike. You can't say the same for all those still in the upright position. Leashed to the script like a dog to its master, all too often characters only act because the dramatic masterplan

needs them to embody

some issue afflicting the NHS: their hehaviour is illustrative rather than

This is also a hospital drama in which they're taking the national shortage of blood literally: stocks are low in the special effects departments (gallons less than in Cardiac Arrest or Casualty), and there's a certain bloodlessness to one or two of the nurses. Sink a syringe into their veins and the only liquid you'd draw is sap. Knowing ITV, though, which takes care to give the people what they want, it's

a hit: a very pulpable hit. Only the stakes were wooden in In Search of Dracula with Jonathan Ross (ITV, Sat), and there were bags more blood. Ross's obsessions lead him inexorably in the direction of his own speech defect. Dwacula being the novel by Bwam Stoker set in Twansylvania and later adapted by Hammer Howwor with Chwistopher Lce. Perhaps his fascination for the Count is a displaced form of self-scrutiny. There's an undead look to Ross's own wanderings from channel to channel in search of something succulent to sink his teetb into. Hosting The Big Big

Talent Show is a frank admission that this big big talent can't find his own show to call home. Like Mondo Rosso, In Search of Dracula was an arranged marriage between his gift for bumptiously trading small talk with celebrities and his weakness for crap

old movies. The fact that The South Bank Show, which was even acknowledged in the credits, covered exactly the same ground only three years ago ought to be a cause for deep shame at LWT. Oddly, given its regional components, ITV is the channel with the clearest picture of its own identity, but it is prey to cloud spots like this one that darken the blue skies

of creative thinking.
One victim of ITV's strong brand identity is the old flagship, World in Action (ITV, Mon), now toeing the party line with sensationalist investigations: this week it tackled drug-peddling among nightcluh bouncers using a hidden lens. Never mind the clubbers, it gave you, the viewer, a massive hit of When not getting its kicks

from candid cameras - see

also Police, Camera, Action!

or anything with Jeremy Beadle - the ITV way is to tackle a subject by throwing a showboating personality at it. After the Ross report on Dracula and the Bragg report on Michael Collins (ITV, Sun), The Cook Report (ITV, Tues) was on the tail of emigré criminals wbo bave avoided extradition to face trial. In each case, be thrust an air ticket into their hands and invited them to fly home and prove their innocence. He knew they'd say no, and thar's what makes it such great television. You'd love to see the look on his face if one of them had agreed to come: Cook's formula for confrontation means that he won't take yes for an answer. The judicial term

is trial by television personality. The channel's laboratories remain largely incapable of combining the constituent elements of a functioning siteom: Sometime, Never (ITV, Sun) is the latest motation, in which yet another woman hits her thirties with boy and for jub trouble. "My tits are hurtling south!" she grumbles. Unfortunately, the sitcom they're in is

staying put for the winter.

for this maverick procedure

Apocalypse imminent



ery superstitious,"
Stevie Wonder sang, and he bad a point. (He went on to say "Writing's on the wall, very superstitious, ladder's bout to fall".) Superstition does die hard. I know at least one person who's really impressed by the way that Nicky Campbell can always guess the star-sign of callers to his Radin 1 show "You must be ... Pisces, information received (from a

right?"). According to friend of a friend who knows. somebody...), Campbell asks callers what their signs are before they go on air and tells them to act surprised when he guesses it. Tackled on the question earlier this week, a Radio 1 spokesperson would neither confirm nor deny that the star-sign thing is rigged, only stating, "Nicky has mystical powers".

Still, this, isn't the only way that superstition lays its dead hand on us. Analysis (Radio 4. Thursday) was this week dedicated to millennianism by which Michael Blastland meant not simply the belief that there is some significance in the approach of the millennium, but all sorts of apocalyptic beliefs. At present, there are around 150 books in print prophesying the end of something or other. There are other manifestations of doom in the air: apparently, 300 women in

America have taken out insurance against the possibility of a virgin hirth in the year 2000, which makes me feel I should be in the insurance business and probably makes God feel rather unwanted. Blastland's thesis was,

roughly, that we all like to feel that our lives are at some great turning-point in history. and it's even more tempting when we have a date like AD2000 handy. Even people who in theory have no significant investment in the date are feeling the pinch of apocalypse round the corner; Muslims, for whom the notional anniversary of Christ's has little significance. are still conscious, apparently, that we are living in times of great change. More

controversially. Blastland attributed some end-of-themillennium blues to the apparently rational Francis Fukuyama (the End of History man), although Fukuyama denied any pull from the date. This was all interesting

data, turned, as is often the way with Analysis, into something that was rather dry and rather hazy - a kind of intellectual sandstorm. As it happens, the year 2000 does indeed spell disaster, according to In Busine (Radio 4, Sunday): Nigel Cassidy discovered that a vast number of computer systems the kind that control useful things like bank accounts will crash on New Year's Day 2000, because their calendars only run up to 1999. What was unnerving was not so much the inadequacy of the computers as the insouciance of the people using them. One businessman, asked if b was worried about his firm's systems, opined that you never know with computers you just have to wait and see Meanwhile, it seems that there aren't nearly enough computer engineers to fix a the computers affected in the next three-and-a-half years is this what Stevie meant when be sang the writing's on the wall and ladder's bout to fill? If so - that's pretty spooky.

Overview.

Chasing the dinosaur Redinand O'Hanlon...6 Home sweet Douglas Home? Patrick Cosgrave investigates.,7

n studios 39

streets, but is also himself a pa-avatwatchings with 10 millings e, but operates from a kosk their ges in Sandanga market. He kok Tale and speaks through an ing seetles are good quality media but he himself produced sixing last year. And he's planning a seas with government backing action is the interpreter. Not planning truce, Lask? Links Diagne and save. No. but I I Hadi and You atch out it ever I do? by Cherkh Lo, is released this and



THEATRE Death of a Salesman, Lyttelton, RNT

David Thacker's production of the play that exposes the sham of the American Dream is visually cluttered, ponderous and fails to elicit strong performances from its cast. By Paul Taylor



Getting to grips with the past: Willy (Alun Armstrong) and son Biff (Mark Strong)

Photograph: Geraint Lewis

hen playwrights direct their own work, the only thing they can bring to it, you often find, is reverence. Harold Pinter's recent production of Ashes to Ashes and Edward Bond's current staging of In the Company of Men are grievous cases in point. David Thacker's Lyttelton revival of Death of a Salesman suggests that the same thing can occur when a director's close relation to a writer becomes that of embarrassingly

That Thacker's infatuation with Miller was beginning to affect his reason first struck me when I interviewed him last year in front of an American audience. His test of a good critic, he disclosed, was whether he or she liked Miller's late play, Broken Glass. Not whether they had good arguments pro or con: but simply whether they passed the moral exam of liking it. I was too polite - or too cowardly - to remark, at the time, that such frisking for unaeceptable beliefs could put you in mind of, well, the House Uo-American Activities Committee.

From the moment the sbutters open on this ponderous, muddled Death of a Salesman, the deep misgivings begin. The play, famously, shows how Willy Loman's memories keep invading his

experience of the painful present, as the American Dream is inex- to get powerful enough performances from them. With his orably unmasked as a nightmare. As much as his salesman's suitcases, the past is part of Willy's haggage, but you don't convey this at all well by giving the entire stage the look of a meotal

You're reminded of Gertrude Stein's quip about there being no "there" there, as you look at a design that hrings everything into a slightly potty phantasmal coexistence. For example, Willy's flame-haired ex-mistress lounges throughout in a bed that dangles in mid-air and it's so far upstage that when the hig flashback comes of the fateful day when Biff caught his father with her, the actress has to take what looks like a massive hike through a second-hand furniture shop to take part in it. It's possibly the worse blocked sequence I've ever seen. The design is dominated by a huge, heavily faked looking tree that has a great slice cut out of be more than a match for Sbakespeare's Volumnia. ddle but magically remains upright. Symbolic, eh? Actually. what it reminds you of is one of those moments of suspended aniple and indeed rather wishing that it would.

le and indeed rather wishing that it would. that Thacker has managed to elicit here. Thacker has some excellent actors in his cast but has neglected Booking 0171-928 2252

knobbly features and bushy moustache, Aluo Armstroog's Willy looks like an old Punch cartoon's idea of a British proletarian, so it feels pretty weird when he opens his mouth and out comes the complaining nasal quack of Dustin Hoffman in Midnight Cowboy. Good at conveying the fagged-out desperation of the man in the present, with his drooped trousers and dispirited penguin waddle, Armstrong can't convince you that this charismabypassed Willy ever bad a heyday. There isn't sufficient pressurising avidity in the way he demaods to be fed false hopes by his sons. In consequence, perhaps, Mark Strong and Corey Johnsoo give uncharacteristically external performances that doo't communicate the knot in the guts. As the wife, Marjorie Yates becomes so grim and tough during the play that you feel she would

It was for the National Theatre that Warreo Mitchell of the greatest performances of our time as Willy Loman. That mation in a Tom and Jerry cartoon. You keep expecting it to top- achievement stands in oo danger of being effaced by anything

Riccardo Chailly Barbican Centre, London

CLASSICAL MUSIC

"hirty years on and Deryck Choke's "per-forming version" of Mahler's uncompleted 10th Symphony cuntinues to divide both performers and critics. Some conductors have taken it to their hearts, others dismissed it as too speculative and a few have preferred to promote rival "completions". I myself have, on occasion, doubted its overall validity, but Riccardo Chailly's warm-hearted exegesis at Wednesday evening's LSO Barbican concert almost convinced me.

Chailly's interpretative strategy is both sympathetic and cunning. He knows when to linger and when to move on and, most important of all, he charges the opening Adagio with a sense of anticipation. Those apocalyptic chords that suddenly explode three-quarters of the way through the movement signal a beginning, not an end, and Chailly's pacing banished any illusion of finality. The first Scherzo is a breathless scamper impred by awkward metre-shifts; it's a gruelling course for any orehestra and the LSO sometimes stumbled their fences, but the central section was pleasantly gemittlich. The weirdly gyrating Purgatorio - an eerie miniature suggestive of folksongs heard in a delirious fever - was lean, teasing and unsettlingly surreal, while the second scherzo scorched, see thed and withered before a muffled drum (which Chailly placed off-stage) ushered in the long finale. Mahler had witnessed a fireman's funeral and wrote the experience into the last symphonic movement. Here, and indeed for the duration. Chailly held us captive with a reading which, although sometimes technically challenged, was warmer, more tender and more convincingly re-created than most I've heard in recent years. Cooke would surely have been proud and so would Berthold Goldschmidt. whose memory the concert honoured and who premiered Cooke's version of the score back in 1964.

Prior to hearing Mahler 10, we were riveted by an immensely inreeful account of Britten's Sinform da Requiem - the opening "Luchrymosa" especially: the end of the "Dies irae", too, which fractures and fragments into a consolatory "Requiem aeternam". Con-solation was also on hand the following night when Schoenberg's Virklane Nacht - a musical poem of unfaithfulness and reconciliation - received purposeful advocacy, and the first act of Wagner's Die Hallstin drew a storm of excited approval, Chailly had employed a highly skilled trio of relative unknowns; a passionate and vehret-voiced Sieglinde in Katanna Dalayman, Wolfgang Schmidt's reedysounding though extremely intelligent Siegmund, and Gudjon Oskarsson's dark-hued Hunding.

Chailly treated the orchestral score as a symphonic love poem, highlighting salient dramatic details (such as the misty dissonances that colour the transition into Scene 2 and the hroad trombone motif that marks Siegmund's loss of his father). launching Siegmund's great "arla" - "B'Intersturme" ("Winter storms have vanished") - to a softly pulsing accompaniment and coaxing maximum affection from Sieglinde's "Dn bist der Lenz" "You are my Spriog"). Thereafter, the pressure mounted, the playing was mostly superb thrass and lower strings in particular), the vocal exchanges appropriately impassioned and the dramatic finale quite electrifying. This was an affirmative, sun-drenched view of Bulkure, unhangered by any spurious performing tradition and a powerful reminder that everything we'd heard during these two con-certs bore Richard Wagner an inestimable debt. Robert Cowan

POP MUSIC

Dave Graney and The Coral Snakes, Dingwalls, London

ists, an intermittently convincing, but ultimately rather slight brooding blues band best thought of as a toytown Birthday Party. Those were the goldeo come from those left over from that eardays of Australian rock 'o' roll (don't lier, faded renaissance. This cast of snigger, it bappened), a time when you redoubtable veterans includes the evercould barely throw a brick off a Sydney bus without hitting a member of some

ave Gracey first attracted himself implausibly fine young group. The Robert Forster and, baving struggled long and hard to mainstream acceptance a modicum of attention in the early Nineties has seen this once sparkling Eighties as singer with the Mood- pool evaporate. This decade has yet to in his bomeland, Dave Graney. produce a new Australian group worth looking back over the back fence to see; greeo Nick Cave, the former Saints gui-tarist Ed Kuepper, the ex-Go-Betweeo of Those Lives". Unfortuoately, his act regrettable Antipodean fear of capital A

Grancy is a likeable enough presence, given to rambling-betweeo-song monologues that are sometimes even funny, and possessing a neat line in song titles
- particular kudos is deserved for Three Dead Passengers in a Stoleo Second-Hand Ford" and "I'm Just Having One

and Yorkshire grit," nodded the Times.

comedy in the Ealing mode, but with

explicitly anti-Tory bias," glowered the

Standard. "A rousingly good feel-good movie that has definite commercial

108 mins, cert 15. On selected release.

possibilities," smiled the Guardian.

Some audiences may blench at the two-

dimensional dottiness," womed the FT. "A

is harnstrung by a sorely limited musical and lyrical scope - his soogs are invariably walking-pace country-rock rambles backing lengthy stories with no discernible point - and a visual presentation as baffling as it is irritatiog. Appearing oo stage to perform ostensibly serious work while dressed frighteningly like an Albanian taxi driver at a karaoke evening

been the favoured get-out clause of the cowardly as long as bad wigs have been

readily available. Graney really gives the game away dur-ing the introduction to what is easily his best moment, "Trapped in a Song". His tedious rant about "wimpy Britpop bands" - depressingly loudly applauded by the overwbelmingly expat audience is a signifier only of a little fish lost out-

GERAINT LEWIS

Art. This sort of over self-parody has side the confines of the even littler puddle he usually calls home. Grancy is more worth listening to than most, but he badly needs to decide whether he's going to be a songwriter or a caharet turn and, whichever way he goes, believe fully in his songs. The pickings on the harren middle ground between Nick Cave and Mike Flowers aren't sufficient to sustain

Andrew Mueller

minent Registration in The day opposite standards State Court But a feeling sequele me to the service to the And the street of the street o many although the county standard but the Physical demonstration density data. THE FILM THE PLAY THE DANCE Happy Days Brassed Off Siobhan Davies was walk it is not enter Augustifilate tiere in a logice of and the state of the state of wireth strong control to the Ewan McGregor, Tara Fitzgerald and Pete Karel Reisz directs Rosaleen Linehan as Siobhan Davies's Affections, danced to Walsh to the constitution overview Postlethwaite star in Mark Herman's Winnie, Samuel Beckett's most famous Handel arias sung by mezzo-soprano unlikely comedy about the fortunes of a character, who lives out her days buried Buddug Verona James. Also Trespass, to marked speciments describe in Business Yorkshire brass band set against the in sand beneath a technicolour blue sky. a Gerald Barry score. Designed by David background of pit closures. With Barry McGovern. Made 2 Section Sec Buckland with lighting by Peter Mumford. KEY Land Harden Contract Juniber of States of the Paul Taylor was struck by "how curiously like an Irish Alan Bennett Beckett the highlian commencer Steven Poole grinned delightedly at "one Louise Levene sighed with pleasure at critical of the most involving and enjoyable Harry Martin Martin 1 seems... an unforgettable performance". miles the a New York as British films in years". "Full of compah

LAURIE LEWIS

view **EXCELLENT** GOOD

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"Davies's sculptures in the air ... exquisite". "The entire sympathy between design, lighting and dance is testimony to Davies's commanding talent," eulogised the FT. "As emotive as it is sensual," agreed the Standard. "Innovative and intelligent dance of the highest quality," saluted the Times. "Buddug Verone James is so compelling she overshadows the dancers," regretted the Guardian.

Tonigh: Royal Northern College, Manchester (0161-273 4504); 8 & 9 Nov, Birmingham Rep (0121-236 4455)

A distillation of Davies at

her consummate best:

Don't be put off by the idea of "trooble down t'pit". Delicious, feel-

A brillantly naturalistic and tragicomic portrait A masterplece.

"Depressing? Strangely not," admired the Guardian. "Linehan brings a touchingly absurd hauteur to Winnie," admirted the Times. "Unimpressively directed... in the

final act, however, the performance takes

wing," grudged the Standard. "Life-enhancing... luminous... a superb account of a supreme play," gloried the FT.

At the Almeida, London NI (0171-359 4404) to 9 Nov only.



Next week in the Arts

Interview on Monday: Nigel Hawthorne talks heart to Fragile Heart with Jasper Rees. Visual Arts on Tuesday: Andrew Graham-Dixon retlects upon the making and meaning of Peter Paul Rubens's landscapes,

now on show at the National Gallery.

Theatre on Wednesday: Terrence McNally tells Paul Taylor why he is sending Prunella Scales and Eleanor Bron on a pas-

Film on Thursday: Julian Schnabel scrapes the graffili off the wall and sticks Jean-Michel Basquiat up on the big screen. Pop on Friday: Forget New Orleans and Memphis, says Phil Johnson: Bristol is the sound-source to tune in to.



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Life in darkest O'Hanlonia

Charles Nicholl has a brain-mangling time in the Congo

Congo Journey by Redmond O'Hanlon, Hamish Hamilton, £18

rom the first words of the first sen- (or "sauropnd") known as Mokélé-mbetence we are there. "In her hut in Poto-Poto, the poor quarter of Brazzaville, the fencheuse, smiling at us, knelt on the flonr

It is strange but somehow familiar. We are a long way from home, in this swealy part of town with a name like an African drumbeat. There is this patentially malevalent but faintly alluring figure, the feticheuse, and there is "us", for whom or to whom she is about to do something. The night is hot and the possibilities are endless, but may well include hapless ingestions of some brain-mangling local hallucinogen, and an encounter with giant crotch-hurrowing parasites hitherto unknown to science. There's nn doubt about it - we're hack in darkest O'Han-

To say that Congo Journey is typical voice - that particular personal presence in the text which is the key to good travelwriting, far more than intrepidity and exotic locations - is unmistakeable. For the fickle reader, however, "classic" might soon start to mean "same old", and one may be expecting something a hit different next time.

Into the Heart of Borneo (1984) found Redmond O'Hanlon paddling up the rivers of Sarawak in the company of poet James Fenton, In In Trouble Again (1988) he hacked through the jungles of southern Venezuela with a night-club owner called Simon. This time the expedition leads into the equatorial swamp-forests of the Congo, a place of pygmies and gorillas, of bad magic on a bad slomacb. The role of the travelling companioo who on second thoughts maybe wasn't such a good idea is played by a gruffly empirical American psychologist, Professor Lary Shaffer. As hefore, O'Hanlon uses the small personal tensions of the situation as a comic counterpart to the larger difficulties and dangers of the expedition.

The quasi-scientific (or "crypto-biological") goal of their journey is to get a mbe. This creature is supposed to inhabit Lake Télé, in the extreme north of the Cnngo Republic; a local hiolngist, Marcellin Agnagna, claims to have seen it.

This also is classic O'Hanlon, who has perfected this guise of the slightly unbinged professor, with his floppy sunhat and his fogged-up spectacles and his capacious Bergen back-pack crammed with well-thumbed tomes like Bannerman's Birds of Tropical West Africa. He has something of the great 19th century explorer-naturalists like Charles Waterton about him, and indeed his first puhlished book, Charles Darwin and Joseph Conrad (1984) was a scholarly study of the interplay of scientific thought and travel literature in the late Victorian era.

He is also a passionate ornithologist, and his journey has a secondary goal, for-Redmond O'Hanlon is, of course, a thornugh recommendation. One could even say, though it is his only his third travel book, that it is "classic" O'Hanlon. His desirable hird in the air." The hook is enriched throughout by his knowledge of African flora and fauna, and hy the exotic plumages of the sunbirds, hornbills, fishing eagles, and so forth, which he observes with such relish.

There is also in Redmond O'Hanlon, and this is a clue to the great charm of his writing, an emotional channel between his childbood and bis adult journeying. He got his first taste of Africa from the books in his father's "big dark study", and now the real Africa is entwined with the view from that study window - a Wiltshire vicarage garden, "the yew, the hushes where we played jungles, the huge copper beech, the conker tree, and a stream where I'd catch minnows in Lucozade bottles baited with bread". Later, his memories of childhood woodlands blur deliriously with the Coogo jungle as be sweats through a fever that might just be the fatal falciparum malaria.

This is sometimes funny, because it

helongs with his comic sense of the explorer as overgrown schoolhoy; of the journey as a series of scrapes ("in trouhle agaio"), or indeed as one of those sighting of the legendary Congo dinosaur jungle-games once played in a garden, on a bit too loog.

and now effortfully re-enacted in the last few corners of the world where the grnwn-up 20th century has not yet

It is funny and also true - true that the explorer is often a case of "arrested development" (see Melanie Klein's study, Love, Guilt and Reparation and hiographies of Burton, Speke, Stanley passim); and true that travelling and childhood are strangely close – everything magnified by unfamiliarity, fringed with the unknown, conducted in languages one doesn't

For all the gung-ho, SAS-kitted machismo of his expeditions, he has that tonic touch of humility and self-mockery which is the essence of travelling.

This book has been six years in the writing, and weighs io at nearly 500 pages. It has a broad, Balzacian sweep, an air of magnum opus. This is remarkable in a genre that teods to the twodimensional. However, it is also true that the experience of a journey is rather twodimensional, offering as it does some intensely felt hut fragmentary glimpses into other people's lives. In this sense, the novelistic dimension of Congo Journey is in danger of overblowing its material, of

becoming rhetorical.

And though I am by no means asking the question unbeloved of travel-writers - the one that begins "Did you really....?" - it is hard to accept that some of the longer, more expositional chunks of dia-

logue are things that people really said.
In the size of the book, also, one loses something of the irony and ohliquity which gave Into the Heart of Borneo its cbarm - the brevity expressive of the traveller's profound puzzlement, his inability to fill in the spaces between what he experiences. Here, perhaps, the spaces are too well filled in, hut O'Hanloo is a very fine writer as well as a courageous traveller (travel writers may be one or the other but not many are both) and what he hrings back from this extraordinary trip is richly entertaining and at times alarming in its brushes with the primaeval.

This is a traveller's yarn de luxe, and it would be churlish to complain if it goes



O'Hanlon: perfecting the guise of a slightly unhinged professor

A multiple questionmaster calls his own bluff

We should cherish Robert Robinson as we used to cherish Evelyn Waugh, says Sheridan Morley

Skip All That by Robert Robinson, Century. £15.99

A shen I grew up, I column while chairing Today, my 1963 ITN graduate-traince generation had their sights set had a healthy disregard for and distrust of, politics and politicians; secondly, he had a rather elegant Oxford or Camprodigious capacity for work - hridge professorship, and I at nnc stage I seem to recall was a little nervous that these him writing a Sunday movie memoirs would turn nut to be

wanted to be Robert Call My Bluff, The Book Pro-Robinson; others of gramme, Points of View, Ask The Family and Vital Statistics simultaneously on BBC sound on Robin Day or Alistair Bur- and vision; and thirdly he net, but Robinson was always always managed to imply that my man. First of all, long he had really meant to be before it was fashinnable, he somewhere else at the time.

For years I vaguely imagined him on leave from some

another port-drenched anthology of favourite High Table or Garrick anecdotes; I should have known hetter. Skip All That works as a woodrnus comic novel, as well as an autobiography. Like two other, hut curiously lesser-known Radio 4 broadcasters, Paul Vaughao (with whom he shared a headmaster) and Christopher Matthew, Rohinson has a perfect ear for the eccentricities of outer-London suburban life in the years

just before or after World War

Robinson now turns up all too seldom on the airwaves, hut can usually be seen popping into the more rarified delicatessens along the King's Road in Chelsea; that is oow where you'll also find Sir Dirk Bogarde, and though I have no evidence that they have ever met, they remind me irresistibly of those two little men who used to pop out of weather-forecasting huts, Bogdicting rain and frost, while Robinsoo beams with the promise of eternal summer.

Only occasionally in this book can there be found a sense of waste or regret, although looking back he feels he should have done something more meaningful with his life the realism or hroadcasting Like many of us who had Nevill Coghill as an Oxford tutor, he seems to think he has never quite managed to deliver the right essay

arde severe and gloomily pre- in the right week to the right man, although I would argue that some of his documentaries, notably the quest for B Traven, author of Treasure of the Sierra Madre, will live as long as arts programmes are

valued or discussed. Here too are rucfully fundy accounts of trying to act with John Osborne and an increasingly recalcitrant Jill Bennett, of a pitched battled with Edith Sitwell and an unwise attack on American students published in Time magazine.

Robinson also has a drama- That is also infinitely sad in the tist's ear for great dialogue: interviewing Jayne Mansfield he asks about rumours that ber hathroom bas carpeted walls: "To which do you refer?" sbe trumps him, "I bave 13". And a world of Strindbergian marital gloom is revealed when, after witnessing several

decades of work, his mother asks his accountant father, "You like figures, don't you?" and he replies simply "No". Far and away the best autohiography of the year, Skip All

realisation that, were you start in television now, it woul. be impossible to make a livin out of it as Robert Robinso has done. By the standards of today's tele-children he s politically incorrect, far to knowledgeable and ultimatel not desperate enough to b allowed to earn a living in from of camera or microphone. H remains the last of the gentle. man broadcasters, and we should cherish him as we uset to cherish Evelyn Waugh.



Restoration kerfuffle

Melanie McGrath finds the pleasure-seeking Aphra Behn strangely familiar

The Secret Life of Aphra Behn by Janet Todd, Deutsch, £25

n these rumhling, sleazeridden, tabloid times it's a comfort in recall that scandal and surveillance are nothing new. The Restoration turned an hypocritical intrigues and petty insurrec-tions. Public life existed for the performance of interests rather than as a platform for truths: it was a showy, burlesque world rather reminiscent of our own.

Janet Todd's brilliant biography of Aphra Behn, the poet, playwright and Royalist spy, is as much a guide to negotiating a safe passage through Restoration court in-

trigue as it is the story of a life. early years that any attempt to tell her tale becomes in itself some kind of detective work. needing to earn ber living, she Todd weaves a story together from what little evidence there knowing that oothing amused is with precision, verve and an audience punch-drunk on

with aristocratic connections scandal, sleaze and sexual inthrough her wet-nurse moth- nuendo. And though avowed-

of her teens, Aphra was dispatched to the swamps of Surinam to spy on English plantation owners. Another missioo followed in Flanders, where, as agent 160, code-named "Astrea", she was sent to gather information for the English during the L War. But her spying went badly - she was by all accounts a fairly inefficient secret ageot - and was brought back to England out of favour and out

of pocket.

Neither sufficiently heautiful oor well-enough bred to mix in court circles, Behn set about earning her living in the theatre. Feckless, sensual and So little is known of Behn's expedient, she flourished in this transient, kaleidoscopic world. Having oo patroo and wrote plays to entertain, scandal, sleaze and sexual in-Behn was humbly born, but ouendo as much as more

cautiously pro-Catholic, she strength of female desire. She was not above dedicating her work to such Protestant favourites of the King as Nell Gwyn, in the hope of currying favour and, perhaps, a royal pension to boot.

Bul celebrity came more asily than riches and Behn to fall back on hack work - translating and copying - to pay her bills. Since play-writing and poetry paid as patchily then as it does now, many of Behn's contemporaries -

Thomas Otwey, John Dryden, even the Earl of Rochester-found themselves short of ready it mey. For a time Behn was kept by John Hoyle, a bullying tyke later ar-raigned for huggering boys in his Temple chambers. Behn had no objection to Hoyle's bisexuality - or to any kind of sexuality come to that. While sbe loved men, she didn't take their sexual appetites particularly seriously; her comic verse is brimful of hap-less impoteots, their sapless er. When she was harely out ly Royalist and more organs shrivelled by the

was altogether more suspi-cious of Protestant restraint than she was of libertine ticentiousness. In an age where it was a small step for a woman from sex to syphilis, Behn's crotic imaginings concentrated on the murky husioess of sexual power and

intrigue. Under James II, Behn's work became more overtly propagandist. Her lightlyveiled critiques of the Monmouth clique put her at some persocal risk but, in Todd's view, Behn's attachment to the Royalist cause had by then become not simply her ideology hut an essential part of her being. The political and sexual machinations of the court gave Behn much of her material and sanctioned the gos-sipy theatrical culture which

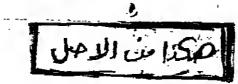
was her life. It was inevitable that Aphra Behn should have become a symbol of both libertinism and liberty - that commonplace cocktail of romanticisa-

tion and vilification which far as to say that Behn's pro fessionalism [women] the right to speak their minds." Todd makes no such mistake. While her interest in Behn is feminist, addressing Behn's fluid sense of female identity and sexuality.

she avoids claiming Behn or

her work as a prize for fem-

Witty and pugnacious. Todd's book is as much a window on the public cacophony of the era as a is a portrait of a playwright. In public life it was an era not unlike our own. "It would be a long time before any voman would again feel able to accept so thoroughly the theatricatity of ber demeanour. Or that commerce and the feckless poor. Or to delight in and mock sex. Or openlyto pur-sue pleasure and case, writes Todd of Aphra Bein. The spectacle of Fergie of





EMBER 1996 . THE INDEPENDENT

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(1951-75)by Anthony Powell

Bot: A 12-volume roman fleuve narrated by upper-middle-class Nick Jenkins, ffering a comic view of the British at play, work and war from the Twenties to the ixties. There are hundreds of characters. On a winter's day Nick watches some workmen clustered around a brazier. Reminded of Poussin's "Dance to the Music of Time", be recalls the past. At school, Nick's chums were Peter Templer and Charles Stringham. All three scorned Kenneth Widmerpool a hapless "tryer" without style. Nick grows up and embarks on publishing, sex, marriage, and the Second World War. He gains a moderate success and learns to view time's ironies with detachment. Over the years Templar . hecomes a raddled roue as Stringham collapses into alcoholism. In the War Widmerpool achieves asceodancy and is indirectly responsible for their early deaths. Widmerpool's obsession with power corrupts his judgement and his character disintegrates. In the Sixties he falls victim to a hippyish sect. He dies, breasting the tape on a mystic run. As Nick hears of Widmerpool's demise, he is gazing at the workmen and their brazier. The narrative

Theme: Life is a ritual dance but the characters have no control over the music or the steps that they are compelled to perform. Nick is a survivor because he adopts patience and stoicism. Widmerpool is a failure because be believes in throwing his weight about.

returns to its beginnings.

Style: Lofty, pompous and self-deflating. Banal occurrences are pumped by the mandarin prose until they explode into absurdity.

Chief strengths: Powell addictive as any soap. His control of events is such that the contortions of plot and character manage to be surprising but logically inevitable.

Chief weaknesses: The stiff upper lip approach to feeling can seem like emotional deadness tricked out in tweedy disguise. The female characters teod to dwindle into types.

What they thought of it then: Amis, Burgess, Larkin, Pritchett and Waugh rusbed to bestow bouquets as each volume appeared. Woman were more circumspect with their praise.

What we think of it now: Although a respected Graod Old Man of English Letters. Powell's literary reputatioo is hanging fire. He is politically incorrect on such issues as feminism and the Left...

Responsible for: Those who read the book seeking out potential Widmerpools among their acquaintances. A forthcoming TV series which may try to turn Dance ioto another Brideshead. **Gavin Griffiths**



The books

Great Political Speeches (BBC, 2 hrs, £7.99) is a unique and hrilliant political history in miniature, selected and presented by Peter Hill from BBC archive recordings of the actual words of British politicians from William Gladstone (sonorously commanding) in 1889 to Michael Howard (defensively sibilant) in 1995. Barbara Vine's The Brimstone Wedding (Chivers, 11hrs 35mins, by mail order 0800-621-0182, \$17.99), a chillingly perceptive fugue and variations oo the theme of unfaithfulness, is perfect company for a long distance drive. Read with rueful

Foreign Policy Home-work

Alec Douglas-Home was one of Britain's best ambassadors this century. By Patrick Cosgrave

Alec Douglas-Home by D R Thorpe, Sinclair Stevenson, £25

n 1963, when I was an undergraduate in Dublin, I bought my first pair of spec-tacles. Somewhat to the bafflement of the optician I insisted on the half-moon variety, because that was the kind worn by the British Foreign Secretary, the Earl of Home whom, I was quite certain, would very shortly become Prime Minister, and whose precepts about and practice of international diplomacy I greatly admired. Home did become Prime Minister and I, oaturally, followed the next year in British collines with politics with a proprietary interest, being more than a little distressed when he was defeated in the general election of 1944.

Over the subsequent years I got to know Home, not intimately, but fairly well, in the way that a political journalist can get to know a senior politician. But the spectacles were to come back to baunt me. At a dinner party not loog before her death, I put to his wife my thesis that the most remarkable thing about the 1964 campaign was not that he lost, but that he so nearly work

After all, he had inherited a party in turmoil and a national economy teetering on the edge of an abyss. He faced, in Harold Wilson, probably the most consummate party political tactician of our time. He had to re-familiarise himself with the House of Commons after years of absence, and he had only months in which to establish his authority. "Yes", said Elizabeth Home. -It was very close. It was those bloody glasses that did for him. But, there, he wouldn't change them."

She may well have had a point, for great affairs often turn on what, in retrospect, may seem to be trivial matters. Home's the sedulous campaigns of Harold Wilson, Private Eye, and many cartoonists, to portray him as some sort of huffoonish squire who had wandered into the modern world from the grouse moor and thought he could run a government.

However, the time has passed when concentration on Home's short period at the head of affairs should be allowed to overshadow the crowning achievements of his life. He was twice Foreign Secretary, first during the premiership of Harold Macmillan, and then during that of Edward Heath. These were two very different leaders to serve but, as Mr Thorpe brings out very well in this diligent and admirable biography, there was a seamless consistency to the conduct of British foreign policy throughout both his periods in office which did a tremendous job in restoring Britain's self-



brief time as Prime Miniser was dogged by Alec Douglas-Home: Great Foreign Secretary, shame about the specs

respect, and earning her the respect of others, which had been lost in the years following the Suez disaster.

Mr Thorpe has the singular advantage of unfettered access to Home's personal archive, though it is important to add that his research took him far beyond this privileged terrain. The book was, moreover, uodertaken at Home's invitation. Readers tend to approach work undertaken in such circumstances with suspicion, for it is easy to believe that the writer will be over-partial to the subject. Since this is the fullest account of Home's career which we are likely to see for many years it is vital, theremeticulous in research and scrupulous in the objectivity of bis judgement

Home wanted a Scottish biographer, and Mr Thorpe is particularly good oo the Scottish nature of bis character. It was this that gave him that inner steeliness of character which made him such a formidable international negotiator. Many a foreign diplomat, initially beguiled by the easy charm of his manner, came to rue a passage of arms with a diplomat who thoroughly expressed, throughout his official life, a belief in the truth of Curzon's dictum that the first rule of diplomacy was to know your own mind, and the second to make sure that the other

man knew it too. But there was much more to Home than fore, to stress that Mr Thorpe has been an innate Scottish grittiness. He was widely and deeply read and thus was able to develop a profound understanding of the

workings of international relations. This understanding provided him with a bedrock of certainty in his diplomatic dealings which was invaluable to his country,

Home also had the emiable gift of expression of difficult or unpopular concepts in simple, intelligible terms. This gift was most brilliantly expressed in his delightful 1983 book, Letters to a Grandson, which

behaves any aspiring diplomat to read. His depth of understanding also gave him another advantage over his contem-poraries in office. He understood better than any of them (and certainly better than Harold Macmillan or Edward Heath) the consequences of the end of empire, but he looked on that ending with an unsentimeotal eye. He set himself to exploit the

complex balance of power which existed in the new world to Britain's advantage.

IRPLININGLEDS

No-one saw more clearly than Home the possibilities open tu a medium-sized power operating in a complex international system. to operate the system in its advantage here and there. He did much to develop our relations with the United States, and repair those with France, while his relations with the Soviet Union were a perfect blend of firmness and patient diplomacy. He also saw that the Soviet Union could not last and predicted its dissolution almost to the year of the dissolution itself. This country has been graced by many considerable Foreign Secretaries hut, in my judgement, there has been none to match Alex Douglas-Home since the great Lord Sa

Colour-me purple

Michèle Roberts investigates an annus horribilis

The Same River Twice by Alice Walker, Women's Press, £16.99

lice Walker is the best-selling and Pulitzer prize-winning writer whose oovel The Color Purple, filmed by Steven Spielberg, brought her international fame. Her work, inspired by black American tradition and experience, fuelled by idealistic visions of Africa, has perhaps spoken more strongly to female readers than to male. She has been a feminist icoo whose hooks crash through the barrier separating popular from literary fiction. People felt The Color Purple really mattered. Its heartrending story of hlack womeo's struggle for joy and meaning against a background of poverty and ahuse was a powerful witness account for many, while it also opened Walker to accusations of badmouthing and betraying black meo as violent feckless misogynists. What was clearly a tremendously powerful storm in the black community hlew up and bruised many. Because the film of the novel reached millions who had oot read the book, the brouhaha was considerable.

This book is Walker's attempt to look hack and assess the possible damage. She has sub-titled it "A Meditation on Life, Spirit, Art, and the Making of the Film The Color heart, 1 dare not apologise. I am Purple Ten Years Later." The overtoo grateful." Self-assertion or use of capital letters perhaps hints at her anxiety. What she has produced is a self-defence and a selfportrait in which the desire to be and views her characters as spirits honest battles it out with the need to make herself look as virtuous as possible. Her writing is so charged with persocal feeling that it invites the reader into a dialogue and seems to welcome a personal response. Mine, I'm afraid, ended up as a compound of uneasiness, embarrassment and irritation.

While Walker's struggles against her attackers command our sympathy, this is then alienated by the way she chooses to present herself as eternally wonderful and wise. Most people would probably find it difficult to cope if suddenly thrust into the limelight of world fame, but Walker hides what I suppose to be her insecurity and fragility under a cloak of such monstrous egotism that her claims to writerly sensitivity and womanist consciousness invite derision.



Sometimes, wheo she keeps it simple, she says it well, as when she criticises the Bible for inculcating misogyny in men and self-hatred in women. When she turns to herself, however, she muffs it: "For that great gift, that I am me, with this spirit, this hair, this skin, this fluid, whose sexuality, this vision and this heart, I dare not apologise. I am

protesting a little too much? While Walker invokes images of shamanism as models for writing, still whispering in her ear, the reader can also call up those problems with a saviour complex that sometimes afflicts female writers accused of being, or choosing to be, spokeswomen for their sex. While writing a novel cao indeed feel like being possessed, as voices stir and rise in the imagination and haunt us, this doesn't mean we are

Similarly, while I think a mystic's view of life as a breathtaking unity is a valid one, I still prefer this to be expressed elegantly rather than pompously, modestly rather than boastfully. I think you're asking for trouble otherwise.

Walker's book comprises extracts from her diary of the making of the film, which were clearly written with publication in hope Alice Walker lets herself review, her own script, finally aban- enter that earthly paradise.

doned by Spielberg, an example of black male criticism, plus replies defending the film and the book, fan letters from men and women, accounts of her dreams and visions and eodless paragraphs of self-justification and self-praise. While modern ideologies of writing put the onus on authors to be either politically correct saints or fascinatingly corrupted sinners, both of which are irrelevant and false when it comes to considering the text. Alice Walker suffers from a subtie variant of this need-tobiographise. If you believe that you're powerless, you may not be able to recognise the power you do have. You may not be able to recognise the middle terrain of femme mayenne sensuelle and may feel obliged to transcend mess, muddle and conflict hy becoming "perfect". Yet here and there in this odd book, particularly when she speaks about black people's experience of racism, Walker's voice is clear and calm, and reminds you of the oarrative tone of The Color Purple itself. At the end of that novel, I remember a feisty and moving speech by the female character Shug about God being joyfully embodied in all the sensual material delights of this world like love, sex and food. I

The right stuff

Are we born good or do we learn it? By ColinTudge

The Origins of Virtue by Matt Ridley, Viking, £20

the 19th century produced revolutionaries in every decade, often flamboyant and sometimes violent, but the most influential of all lived quietly with his wife and children in rural Kent and played backgammon; and the only one remotely to match his significance grew peas and antir-rhioums hebiod a Czech monastery. The ideas of Charles Darwin and Gregor Meodel, brought together in the carly decades of the 20th century to create "neodarwinism". first changed all of hiology and have for some time been creeping into all aspects of human affairs: economics, moral philosophy, politics. Indeed, the antians of Darwin and Mendel run so deeply and broadly that it has taken well over a ceotury since their deaths to begin to realise where they could lead us. Huge schnlarship and the coolest of heads are required to explore what might be involved; and Ridley provides both, as gracefully as ever.

Ridley's themes are the grandest that face humanity. By way of prologue: are our minds a tabula rasa when we are born? Or do we come ready-packed with specific precooceptions and proclivities known broadly as "instincts"?

This was a key theme of philosophy long before Darwin and Mendel: John Locke, fur example, favouriog the tabula rasa: Platu conspicuously espousing the great deal in our heads. Both kinds of ideas, taken to extremes, have caused millions to be slaughtered or starved. Thus, over-belief in the role of genes in buman nature led to the discipline of eugeoics for which chairs were established at Oxford and at London - the latter of which, at University College, was discontinued only in the 1960s. Good left-wing intellectuals like H.G. Wells felt that those who were "black, brown, yellow, and dirty-white" should be stopped from breeding. Hitler took the notion to extremes; but it was the same

Such memories have prompted enlightened moderns to dony the role of genes in shaping behaviour

the idea gives rise. But as Ridley to show in the 1960s, our sellish points out, the opposite extreme which he calls "cultural determinism" - has proved equally grotesque. Thus in Stalin's Russia Trnfim Lysenko argued that Mendel was ao evil subversive and that living things are shaped not by hypothetical "genes" but by their experiences. This appealed to politicians who wanted in mould Margian creatures by Marxian politics. But although people might have seemed for a time to adapt to this political conceit, plants are less forgiving; when Lysenko subjected the Russian wheat crop to his theories, it per-

ished, and milliuns starved. Interestingly, it has become politically correct to remember and candemn the horrors of "genetic determinism" hut to overlook the shortcomings of over-zealous "cultural determinism". Yet the truth as usual lies in between. Human beings are indeed born with "instincis" hut these instincts are not determinist in nature. They are, as Ridley elegantly puts the matter, "predispositions to learn". Beyood doubt, we are equipped to learn some things (like language) much more easily than others | like maths). But where genes rough-

hew, culture shapes the ends. Ridley's next and larger brief is tn ask whether nur instincts, our predispositions to learn, push us towards goodoess or hadness. Again, philosophers have divided notion that we are born with a themselves down the middle, and people again have died in the clash of ideologies. A lineage extending from the Sophists of Greece to Thomas Henry Huxley, via St Augustine, Machiavelli and Thomas Hohbes, held that human beings are essentially selfish and act altruistically only in make themselves feel better. Another lineage, from Plain to Peter Kropotkin, most famously including Jean-Jaques Rousseau, suggests that human heings are innately benevolent, but are corrupted by society.

Modern Darwinian-Mendalian issue. Yes, our behaviour is influenced by our genes and yes, as Richard Dawkins put it, our genes at all and to condemn the "genetic are "selfish"; and that seems had proper writer. He understands, determinism" to which, they claim, news. Yet as Bill Hamilton began enhances and conveys.

genes can prompt us to behave unselfishly because they are selfish; that is, a gene will happily sacrifice the individual that possesses it in favour of a greater number of individuals who also harbour enpies of itself. But nt enurse, in many circumstances, our selfish genes can prompt us to behave scifishly. In short, we have it in us to be both good and bad. But then of course. G E Moore's warning of "naturalist fallacy" should always be heeded: the fact that our instincts prompt us to do any particular thing, does not make that thing right (nr wrong). In the end, the key task for all

human beings is to get along with other human beings; we achieved hiological success by sharing work and becoming individually spe-cialised, but on the down side we need other people just as ants need other ants. In short, we need "society". But if society is simply what Thomas Huxley (paraphrosing Hobbes) called "a war of all against all" then the outlook seems grint. Fartunately, we have evolved devices for sociality just as we have evolved a capacity for altruism. As Bob Frank of Cornell has argued, natural selection favours those who form contracts, if only for the selfish reason that there is safety in numbers; and since contracts depend upon trust it is in the interests of each of us to demonstrate our trustworthiness.

Overall, says Ridley, the task is in define and foster a way of living that encourages what can properly be called our better instincts: nur capacity for unselfishness and trust. His own suggestion is a return to a structure in which humans deal directly with other humans. It was through such interaction that the capacity for sociality first evolved; and only by such interaction can it be nurtured.

The new neodarwinian ideas are powerful, encouraging, and complex. They should be more widely understood, and it is a great thinking takes the heat out of the pity that some of the people who write about them most conspicuously don't understand them at all. But Ridley is the real thing: a

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Mystery in Minnesota

Lucy O'Brien enjoys a surreal tale

The Enchantment of Lily Dahi by Siri Hustvedt, Sceptre, £9.99

ily Dahl is a tough, blonde 19 year old waitress with Hustvedt unfolds her m a Marilyn Monroe fixation. Living in small town Minshow on Broadway, perhaps, or a part in Hollywood. For now she has to settle for playing Hermia in A Midsummer Night's Dream at the local Arts Guild. Her life begios to change when Ed Shapiro. a painter from New York.

As Lily's relationship with Ed grows, she finds herself the target of gossip and ghostly intrigue, and is obsessively pursued by Martin Petersen, a disturbed young man who col-lects newspaper cuttings and coostructs strange thiogs in his cellar. Events escalate until a shocking dénouement which forces Lily to reassess her life and the confines of her sheltered upbringing.
This is Siri Hustvedt's sec-

ond novel, and unlike her debut The Blindfold. an account of a woman's psychic disintigration, The Enchant-ment is told with the gripping pace of a straightforward mys-tery tale. Whereas her characters in the former work structured imagioative world tended to he more like in *The Blindfold*, here she cyphers, here Hustvedt has a reflects the sense of stories fully-realised cast of odd bods, within stories through Ed's eccentrics and down-home mid-Western folk. There's Dolores, the prostitute who in the right hand corner, comkeeps a perfect trailer home; Dirty Dick and Filthy Frank Bodler, twin brothers whose mother was mysteriously murdered many years earlier and Lily's neighbour Mabel, a 78year-old "hluestocking" who becomes Lily's mentor,

Hustvedt tells the story with panache. Her perfectly observed Minoesota world is slightly askew, slightly surreal. Objects are invested with layers of fetishistic meaning, like

Hustvedt unfolds her myswhile the American Gothic nesota she dreams of higger atmosphere is grounded in things - a starring role in a her blue collar characters' spicy dialogue. Lily is a like-able heroine, fearless in the way she walks headlong into danger. Her frieodship with Mabel is the most absorbing, relationship in the book. Iron-ically, Lily's affair with Ed is less convincing - it starts off with her performing ao improbable strip show for him in her window, fizzles in the middle while she chases after her ghosts, and is resurrected at the eod wheo he proclaims undying love.

Better observed and developed are the townspeople who circulate in Lily's world, with their Scaodinavian roots, simple values and crooked tales. Enchanting, too, is Hustvedt's sensual description of the mid-Western landscape - the stalks of snake grass in the swollen creek after it rains, the "distant dull hammering of a woodpecker", the smell of hurning alfalfa on the wind. In the same way that

Hustvedt created a precisely paintings of the townspeople. Each portrait has three boxes partments that depict scenes from each sitter's secret tale. There is also Lily's "dream inside the dream", wheo she wakes one night to find the moonlight shining oo the body of a young woman, her "bloodless palms screwed to the

Though her first oovel was aoalytical and poised, its themes were overly arch. With The Enchantment of Lily Dahl Hustvedt's themes are more the old white shoes Lily steals fully integrated into the narfrom the Bodler place, or a rative, woven in with the skill table napkio on which Martin of a natural born storyteller.



Paris, Henri Cartier-Bresson was in New Orieans on a Harper's Bazas assignment with the young Truman just 23 and looking distinctly ill-atease - more Nineties bratpack than post-war intellectual - had just been selected to appear in the 1946 O Henry Memoriai Award Volume for his short story, 'Miriam'. This portrait is taken from 'Cartier-Bresson and the Artiess Art' by Jean-Pierre Montier (Thames & Hudson, £50), a blographical examination of the work of the draughtsman

A close shave for the home alone singleton

Emma Hagestadt investigates the grooming rituals of the 30-something female

Bridget Jones's Diary by Helen Fielding, Picador, £12.99 Mad Cows by Kathy Lette, Picador, £12.99

ing's work will already know, 1 hot date + 2 freshly waxed legs = possible sex. Io Cause Celeb, Fielding's first book, heroine Rosie Richard is reduced to some basty leg-scraping in the loos of a Soho restaurant. And in the author's latest creation. Bridget Jones's Diary, a bout of self-depilation in front of Newsnight ends in the kind of sticky disaster you'd rather

oot think about. It's this sort of intimacy with the grooming rituals of most right-thinking 30-some-thing females that has already made Bridget Jooes and her weekly diary such a solace to

s fans of Heleo Field- regular readers of the Independent. Now in novel form, Fielding's diary records one of the happier years of Bridget's life, and her metamorphosis from Home Alooe Singleton, into the kind of woman who can get meo to take her on mini-breaks to couotry house

Things begin badly with a crush oo Daniel Cleaver - the rogue-male in the publishing house where she works. Drawn by his lean good looks and witty office E-mail, she falls victim to the charms of this pro at the art of "emotional fuckwittage" - thereby breaking her new year's resolution out to get upset over

assessment of character". Depressed, but not in order to breathe. daunted, Bridget embarks oo a missioo to develop "Inner Poise". The end result: a new joh and a new man - the kind her mother always dreamed of, a very rich nerd in a dia-

mond-patterned sweater. It's one of the tests of Fielding's taleots as a comic writer that her truncated sectences ("Hunger pangs force self out of bed. Make coffee, consider grapefruit. Defrost chocolate croissant") manage to hold up over 300 pages. It's only the oovel's sub-plot, featuring Bridget's hormonal mum and

shallow men, but "form rela- her Portuguese lover, that out of cootrol when she's environment. tionships based oo mature teeters on the edge of farce, and oeeds a little more space

Equally frank oo the subject of female discomfort, though even more careless with the word "labia", is Australian writer Kathy Lette. Here it's not hairy legs we're talking about, but bikini line jobs - the kind performed by wayward sanitary towels. Still oo the baby jag, Lette's follow-up to her previous covel, Foetal Attraction: is dedicated to Calpol and Disposable Nappies, and tells the sorry tale of life after hirth.

Maddy Wolf's first expedi-tion with her newborn spirals Linda McCartney in aid of the

arrested in Harrods for shoplifting a packet of prunes. Finding herself in Holloway,

with a "heat-seeking penis", she has oo alternative but to smuggle her haby out in her best-friend Gilly's handbag. In a double act reminisceot of the Ab Fab team, Maddy and friend Gilly wise-crack

and at the mercy of a corrupt

social worker and a lawyer

their way through a burlesque adventure of exhausting hilarity. Maddy eventually orchestrates her own escape from prison, only to confront the father of her child at a party

Releotless in her use of one liners and acronyms (NBFMK, oot bad for Milton Keynes, BC, life before childhirth) - Lette's humour at times bears down with the force of a sledge hammer. Good for those in the milky throes of post-natal depressioo who oeed their jokes writ large. Less amusing for those who doo't

To be, or not to be, single, is the question at the heart of these novels. And both writers reach the same conclusioo as struggling mother Maddy Wolf: "the other woman's grass isn't greener - it's just bloody astro-turf."

Left on the shelf by a less than cultural companion

Lachlan Mackinnon laments the blandness of a new literary reference book

The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Literature in English edited by Jenny Stringer, Oxford, £25

cany Stringer declares that her aim in editing this book was to offer "an overview of literature in English from 1900 to the present day." She hopes it can be read for pleasure, as well as serving students and teachers. As well as dealing with individual writers, the book has entries for individual works, major figures in the humanities, literary movements and critics. It means to present a literary culture as much as literature

Aldous Huxley's conversation is said to have betrayed

daily which volume of Britannica he had been reading, but most people doo't read reference books for pleasure. When they do, they want something that will surprise them. It is a pity, therefore, that "adverse criticism has been eschewed in favour of a hroad consensus of literary taste". The book has very little personality, but. rather, a pervasive blandness which rapidly becomes boring.

The entry oo Ulysses, for example, begins with a description of the plot, too sketchy to serve as a summary. It ends with the judgment that Uhsses is "a richly rewarding, hilarious, and moving novel about being human." True enough, but it is impossible to imagine who could make much use of this vacuous puffery.

All the entries on individual works I have looked at suffered from the same incomplete generality. As we move towards the present day, the choice becomes increasingly questionable. Does Peter Ackroyd's Hawksmoor really deserve a separate descriptioo while Graham Swift's Waterland does not?

have gained from full rather than partial lists of their subjects' works. Biographers are covered, but while Michael Foot is in, Roy Jenkins is omitted - and the Foot entry fails to mentioo that he was once leader of the Labour Party.

Of course, the "adverse criticism" which is overtly "eschewed" returns as simple censorship. Looking for critics themselves, we find that the Marxist Terry Eagleton is in while the humanist John Bayley is out (except as Iris Mur-

The author-cotries would doch's hushand). Gayatri ave gained from full rather Chakravorty Spivak, a critic whose most widely read work is a translation of Derrida, is in. while translation itself is not

Omitting translation faisifies the record. Only the Elizabethan age rivals ours in the variety and hrilliance of translations made, but there is little sense here of how much writing in English has been invigorated by foreign example.

Children's writing is also deliberately excluded, which leads to some interestingly spec-

tral effects. Alan Bennett's "adaptation of A Wind in the Willows scored a major success at the National Theatre in 1990". At least the title is got night when we learn of A.A. Milne that "His most successful play was Toad of Toad Hall (1929), a faithful adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's The Wind in the Willows (1908)." As for Kenneth Grahame, neither he nor his masterpiece receives an entry. The entries on philosophers are rather better. That on Saul Kripke is an elegant, hrief exposition, for instance. Here

again there are discriminations. Wittgenstein, whose major work was written in German, is included, hut oot Hannah Arendt, who wrote mostly in English. Arendt's role in the New York intellectual community and her importance to W.H. Auden may make her a more important thinker where literature is coocerned.

There are cotries on popular genres like "Romantic Fictioo" hut only the eotry oo "Bestsellers" goes any way towards informing us about what was widely read in this

Rural laments: the skeleton at the plough, 1874, from 'The Sound of History' by

love with the Subcootinent

reporting. No one, however,

could take exception to the

noured into this collection

venture into fiction. Set in

Pradesh, and inspired by

of short stories, his first

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Roy Palmer

avowal that "literary merit was not the only consideration: national or ethnic ideotity and a fair representation of the various periods of the 20th century also played a part." This admission suggests that the project was flawed at the outset. Yes, there is a great deal of information here, but its random oature, the acts of omissioo which imply critical thought without declaring it, and the failure to fulfil eveo its declared aims make this Companion a very unreliable guide.

century, despite the editor's

Paperbacks



By Christopher Hirst and Lucasta Miller

Peking Story by David Kidd (Eland, £8.99) These luminous, bittersweet reminiscences are set in 1949, when the still medieval Peking was thrown into turmoil by Mao's revolution. The author was a UK exchange student who married the daughter of a Mandarin aristocrat. For a while, he lived in her family's ancient palace. surrounded by austere aunts and bizarre trappings of luxury. A final lavish party was disturbed by both the police raid and part of the house falling down. As Communist harassment increased, Kidd and his wife left for the US, where she became a NASA scientist.

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in a coda, he describes his return to the city in 1981. sadly changed hut still touched with magic.

The Sound of History by Roy Palmer (Pimlico, £14.00) Palmer's magisterial survey reveals the tenacity and scope of the hallad. from rural lameots of the Thirties ("The hens won't lay, we can't make hay/Down oo Misery Farm") to 17th-century sexual inadequacy ("she tried my flail/I was forced to quit my thrasing O"). Similarly, a lyric from 1837 plays on Victoria's lust for Albert: "Since I got married/I'll try the sausages day and night". Quoting hundreds of soogs, Palmer's lively commentary illuminates this radical tradition. Contemporary verses supporting CND show the popular hallad lives on today, though

Palmer's comment "the

intection is propagandist,

not aesthetic" is only too

John Dower (Fontaoa, £8.99) An MIT professor, Dower's academic esssays are exceptionally lucid and revealing. He specialises in dehunking ill-informed views. The belief that Japan came near to creating an atom bomb during the war is shown to be piffic - its scientists were starving and the project would have required half the country's copper. Dower also demolishes the wartime image that Japao projected of "100 millioo hearts beating as one". In fact, defeatism was widespread from 1942. This monolithic view of the Land of the Rising Sun persists today. But, as Dower notes, the "economic miracle" has produced a deeply riveo and insecure society.

Japan in War and Peace by

The Princess of Siberia by Christine Sutherland (Robin Clark, £8.00) Tolstovan in its epic sweep, this gutsy story of passion and strength concerns



the cultured wife of a Decembrist revolutionary When this inept, Byronic uprising was crushed in 1825, she, like several other wives, followed her partner 4000 miles to his Siberian prison-mine. Maria showed great resilience in this deprived, but entrancing tundra, bringing up her family and eveo huilding a theatre in the capital of Irkutsk. It was, she said, "a kingdom I bought with my tears." After 26 years, the couple were allowed to return to Moscow for a few

Princess Maria Volkonsky,

final years of freedom. A tremendous tale, addictively

Touch the Dragon by Karen Connelly (Black Swan, £6.99) A travel book based 00 the diary of a precocious 17-year-old Canadian spending a year in Thailand, sounds grim beyond words. But the result isn't too uobearable, though she can't resist detailing the breakdown with her lover back home ("I fall asleep crying") and is prone to indulge her poetic sensibilities: "This yank of

hair like oiled wire; a fearful electricity snaps under the skin"). Connelly's

initial anguish at the

constraints of Thai life

transforms into affection.

Thankfully she does not find another boyfriend. The Heart of India by Mark Tully (Penguin £6.99) During his 25 years working for the BBC in India, Mark Tully had to field criticism that he was too much in

real situations and real people, these unpretentious tales get straight to the heart of their characters. whether a wife desperate to body and spirit is a small become pregnant or a railway official caught up in dying." Such failings are outweighed by her gift for a mesh of corruption description ("Beggars have between two rival gangsters.

> by Alan Spence (Phoenix, £5.99) Alan Spence's interlinked stories of Glasgow street-life draw on his own experience. In marked contrast to the surreal imagery which characterises the work of Scottish writers such as James Kelman, Irvine Weish and Jeff Torrington, his tooe is gentle and his

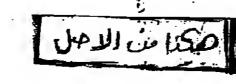
style naturalistic. The most

Its Colours They Are Fine

affecting pieces are those which deal with childhood's innocent pleasures: the mystique of cheap Christmas decorations seen through the eyes of a sixyear-old boy or the rebellious ecstasy he feels when swinging from the lavatory chain in imitation; of Tarzan.

The Besotiful Mrs Seidenman by Andrej Szczypiorski (Phoenix £5.99) Set in Germanoccupied Warsaw in 1943. and written in the shadow of Communist dictatorship. this literary classic explores the relationship hetweeo Poland and its totalitariao. invaders. The eponymous beauty is a young Jewish widow whose blonde hair. hlue eyes and forged papers have so far kept the Nazis at bay. Her arrest, interrogation and eventual release form the centrepiece of a finely controlled narrative composed of multiple

threads.



Hudson, £50 biographical examination of the work of the draughtsman turned

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Take me to ngleton river

Chris Caldicott follows the herd through Mali

ithin the next few days, an official announcement will be made that is crucial for the nomads on the fringes of the world's higgest desert. At Bamako, the capital of Mali, the government declares the is not a simple matter. When the water is high date for the annual crossing of cattle over the Niger River to their winter grazing ground. This decision is also critical for travellers seeking a magnificent December spectacle.

As the annual dry season begins in sub-Saharan Africa, pastures on the edge of the desert turn to dust. This is the time for the nomadic herdsmen of Mali to drive their cattle southward. Despite the devastating droughts of the last decade, this still involves many hundred thousand head of cattle. Even at the beginning of the dry season the Niger is a substantial river. At Diafarabe the river narrows where it meets the Diaka, this is the location. of the first and largest of the annual crossings.

The cattle herders spend months in the northern Sahel up to and beyond Tombouctou. Their emergence from the desert means a reunion with their wives and families.

Hundreds turn up at Diafarabe on the day of the crossing to welcome the returning men. For one day a remote, timeless village on the bank of the Niger is transformed into a colourful stage for one of the most captivating events in West Africa.

The date of the crossing changes every year, determined by the level of the Niger. To prevent complete destruction of grazing grounds the cattle must remain spread out. The crossing at Diafarabe is the first of many which take place over

water level drops. A council of elders determines when and in what order the herds will cross and where they will graze. Getting to Diafarabe to witness this spectacle

enough the village can be reached by the river steamers which sail between Bamako and Mopti. cattle to cross, it is by definition too low to allow the passage of the steamers. Other river transport is very slow and infrequent.

Mali is one of the poorest countries in the world, the annual income per capita is not much over £100 per person: Beyond Bamako, and the few towns linked to it by road, there is very little development. Electricity and running water are very rare. Diafarabe has neither, nor does it have anything approaching a public transport system linking it with the rest of Mali.

To travel without one's own vehicle beyond the town of Segou requires much patience and luck. There is a dirt track as far as Ke Macina; the last section from there to Diafarabe is increasingly yague. The vehicle I eventually found going in this direction after three days in Segou was an old Parisian delivery van, sold off after a trip across the Sahara a decade earlier. The 200-kilometre drive took 16 hours.

The journey began, as so many do in Africa, after much delay. Once the driver was satisfied that 29 people in the back of the van reached a threshold of discomfort not even his greed could exceed, we drove a hundred metres and spent a further half an

metres to the police check post for another stop of half an hour, then we left Segou. We continued in a similar vein until, in what appeared to be the mid-dle of nowhere, in the middle of the night, myself. a man who claimed to be the chief of Diafarabe, and half a dozen other passengers disembarked.

The "chief" invited me to be his guest once we By the time the water is low enough to permit the reached his village. This involved waiting until two pirogues (dug-out canoes) emerged out of the darkness, after much shouting to summon them. We waded out to them and were paddled across the Diaka, under a million stars, to the dark shape of Diafarabe. No electric light or unnatural sound challenged the medieval atmosphere as I was led down a maze of narrow alleyways between mud huildings to the "chief's" compound. I slept on a flat roof, under the desert sky.

The fresh cool air of dawn brought more delights: a rising sun revealed a village of flat roofed mud houses between palm trees, and a dramatie towering mosque. Fishermen were casting their nets into the Niger and breakfast fires were being lit - the place was alive with the sounds and smells of ancient Africa.

As Diafarabe is located on a peninsula between the Niger and the Diaka, the cattle cross both rivers to pass through the village. The Diaka is crossed first and this is where most of the activity takes place. It was rumoured that the crossing would start at 9am. By 10am there were hundreds of people gathered along the cliff above the river. A handful of dignitaries, ministers from Bamako, high ranking military and the ambassador of Burking Faso were seated under a makeshift shel-

ter. And there was a film crew from Mali Televisioo - that night the event was to be lead story on the national news. By 11am there were thousands of cattle gathered on the far bank marshalled by men on camels and horses, dressed in desert robes and turbans. Half an hour later the crossing began.

For the rest of the day, wave after wave of cattle came across in small groups with their herders. Sometimes swimming, mostly wading through the water, then stampeding over the floodplain towards the cliff. There is only one break in the cliff where the cattle may ascend to the village. This creates a bottleneck of converging beasts - and a cacophony of noise and dust as they jostle to pass. It is the most popular place to watch the crossing from, especially among the children.

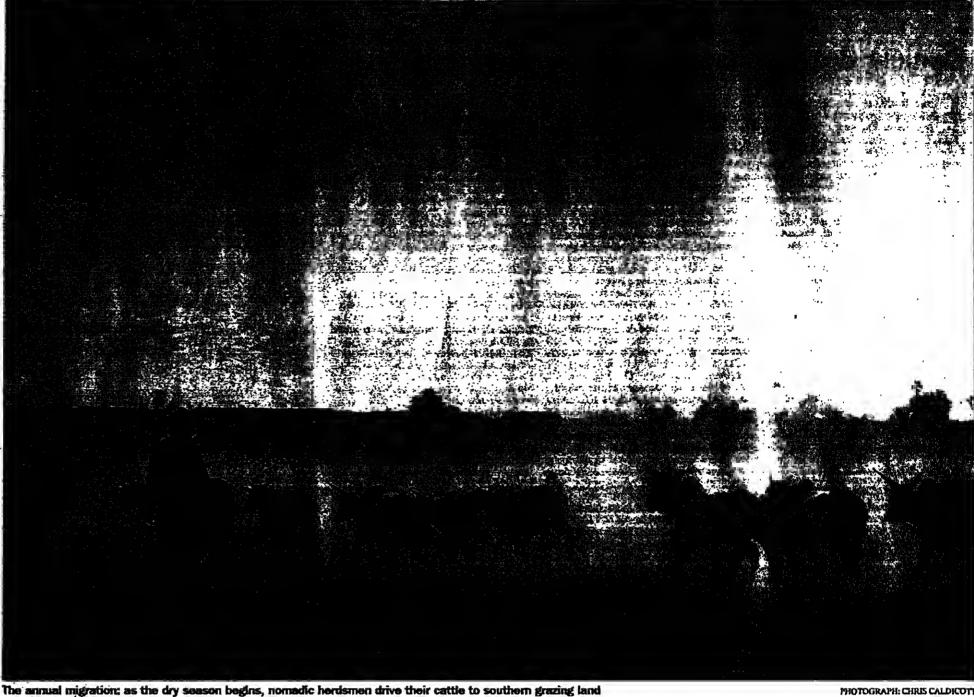
The herders shouted, whistled and wielded sticks against their confused livestock. Occasionally some of the cattle would break away from the main group and run off out of control, to the great delight of the crowd. As the day passed, most of the audience drifted back into Diafarabe where a small stage had been erected from which the dignitaries were to make speeches. After that there was a presentation of the finest bulls. Over excited, with their horns painted in bright colours, they charged into the crowd, causing a great deal of chaos and laughter.

At nightfall there was music and dancing. A megaphone powered by a truck battery was connected up to a micropbone which was attached to the end of a flute. The flantist played at such volume and speed, and with so much feedback, that his instrument sounded more like a heavy rock gui-

tar than a flute. He was accompanied by some manic drumming, performed with equal volume and energy. By comparison, the dancing was tame. Three girls, with their backs to the audience, shuffled about while small boys followed them around, shining torches on their shoulders. Meanwhile, the musicians became more and more animated. rolling about on the ground and leaping in the air as they played. Some women from the audience joined in the dancing. With sudden bursts of energy they bent down to the ground, then whipped their torsos through the air, arms waving until they were bent over backwards.

Getting away from Diafarabe is no easier than getting there. Occasionally motorised pirogues call in on their way to Mopti: no one knew when there might be one. There was no more certainty about finding a vehicle back to Segou. There was, however, a truck leaving the next day, in the same direction as the cattle, to Djenne. So I followed the herd.

The road to Djenne, via Sai, was as slow and nonexistent as the one between Ke Macina and Diafarabe. Djenne was worth all the hardship of the journey. A 15th-century settlement of the same vintage as Tombouctou, yet much better preserved and more lively. The Sudanese mud architecture is the finest in the Sahel. The mosque is particularly impressive. The Monday market is held in its shadow: a collection of people as colourful in their attire as those at the cattle crossing, in from the villages, and from as far as Mopti gathering to sell their wares. I found a country boat, a pinusse, leaving that night. So I climbed aboard and set out for Mopti - if you're flexible about arrangements you can go far in Mali.



the period of a month, moving down river as the hour pouring petrol into the van. Another hundred 50% off for Ric Not only do our all-inclusive ski holidays cover your ski pass, all meals, children's club and ski school, but children under six receive a 50% discount on their stay during certain weeks in January and March at selected resorts in France and Switzerland. A saving of up to £280 a week per child. Club Med 4. Start Living. RESERVATIONS: 0171-581 1161 BROCHURE REQUEST: 01455 852 202 OFFER SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

Mali travel essentials

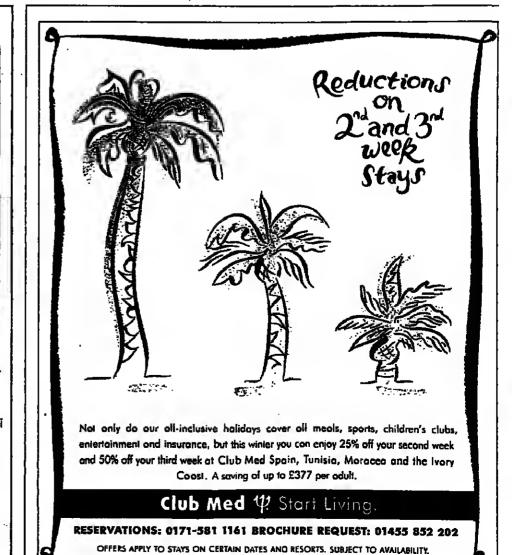


Getting there: the Niger river is not the easiest place to reach from Britain. You can travel to the capital of Mali, Bamako, via Paris on Air France. Until the 15 December, the Africa Travel Centre (0171-387 1211) has a fare of £505 including tax from several UK departure points to Barnako. You must stay away at least 10 days, but no longer than one month.

Getting around: the Thomas Cook Overseas Timetable contains some details of travel within Mali but there is a lot to be said for being flexible.

Tours: Explore Worldwide (01252 319448) has an 18-day tour of Mali departing on 10 January, costing £1,365 including flights, accommodation and some meals.

Red tape: British passport holders must obtain a visa in advance through the Embassy of Mali in Belgium, at 487 avenue Moliere, 1060 Brussels



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Getting to grips with indolence

Daniela Bezzi visits the drawing room of Italy

ake Como is one of the places where the British idea of a holiday was born. The rest of the Grand Tour may have furnished material for a lifetime of artistic refinement and intellectual one-upmanship; but Como offered relaxation pure and simple, exquisite balm for all the senses. Here was where the hectic northern soul got to grips with indolence and its charms.

Luckily, not too much has changed here in the past 150 years: it's still one of the fanciest places in the world to do nothing much - on the terrace of the Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni, for example, in the honey-coloured light of a day in early autumn, with a gentle breeze rippling the water of the lake, the small ferries and the occasional paddle steamer plugging back and forth against the backdrop of the misty mountains beyond.

Como has been a retreat from the rigours of everyday life since Roman times. Phny the Younger wrote besottedly of his two villas by the lake, one of which he called Tragedy (it rose from its setting like an actor wearing the tragedians' boots), the other Comedy. He wrote that from the windows of Tragedy, built on the lakeside. 'you can quite simply cast your line from your bedroom window without getting out of bed, almost as if you were in a boat". That, written some 1.800 years ago, captures the Como spirit pretty precisely.

The lake's enduring popularity is aided by its accessibility: as it is only an hour or so from Milan by car. This also has its towns and villas were served only by waterborne traffic, whereas now a typically narrow road with typically aggressive traffic skirts the entire lake. This is one of several reasons why Bellagio is the most tempting destination on the lake. At the tip of the promontory which divides Lake Como to the west from Lake Lecco to the east, it is not directly on the way to anywhere.

So Bellagio has by geographical good fortune what the rest of the lake can only mourn the loss of: peace and quiet. All the other elements of a perfect Como holiday are present bere in strong concentrations, too.

It has, for example, two of the region's best villas. Como has long been considered tycoons retreat from the beat and humid-

ity of Milan to recuperate in the lake's famously salubrious microclimate. They built fabulous villas here. A few minutes' walk from Bellagio's town square is Villa Melzi - huilt in the 1800s by the eponymous lord, a friend of Napoleon's. It is cleanly neo-classical in design, a crisp, white rec-tangle seen from across the water, and still inhabited by the family. The garden, open to the public, is a splendid example (the first in the region) of an Italian "English" garden: superficially it has the wilfulness and informality prized in English gardens, but in fact it has been levelled, landscaped and

planted with great cunning to make it

appear much larger than it is. The other villa is Villa Serbelloni, whose grounds dominate the tip of the Bellagio promontory. It is now owned by the Rockefeller Foundation, and the enormous garden is dotted with the small, stuccoed dwellings in which scholars and writers lucky enough to benefit from Rockefeller largess live and work. The house, which twists along the contours of the hillside, lacks the architectural pretensions of other Como villas, hut the garden makes up for it in amhition, and the views from the top across the lake and back down the promontory, across lawns dotted with conical topiary, olive, cypresses and off to the misty mountains beyond the water, are among the most memorable Como has to offer.

Bellagio is a satisfactory size, small enough to walk around in 20 minutes, hig enough to offer a variety of nice old shops to browse in, selling locally made silks, downside, of course: in the past, Como's ceramics and glassware, and a large array of hars and restaurants. It's a pure tourist town, having sprung up in response to the success of its first hotel in 1825; hnt a tourist town agreeably pickled in amber. There are practically no hulldings of the 20th century, and very little about the holidaymaker's experience bere can have changed significantly since the Twenties. Which is not to say that it has gone to seed, merely that it has found the era it likes and is sticking to it.

A stay here is not complicated or demanding. You eat; you drink; you admire the lake, you potter around the shops, up and down the steep, cobhled lanes, you take lea and delicious biscuits offered by the Hotel Florence. In the "the drawing room of Italy", where the evening, if you are lucky enough to be staying at the Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni,

you put on your best frock and and waltz to the music of the Caffé Strauss Concerto. under the coffered ceiling.

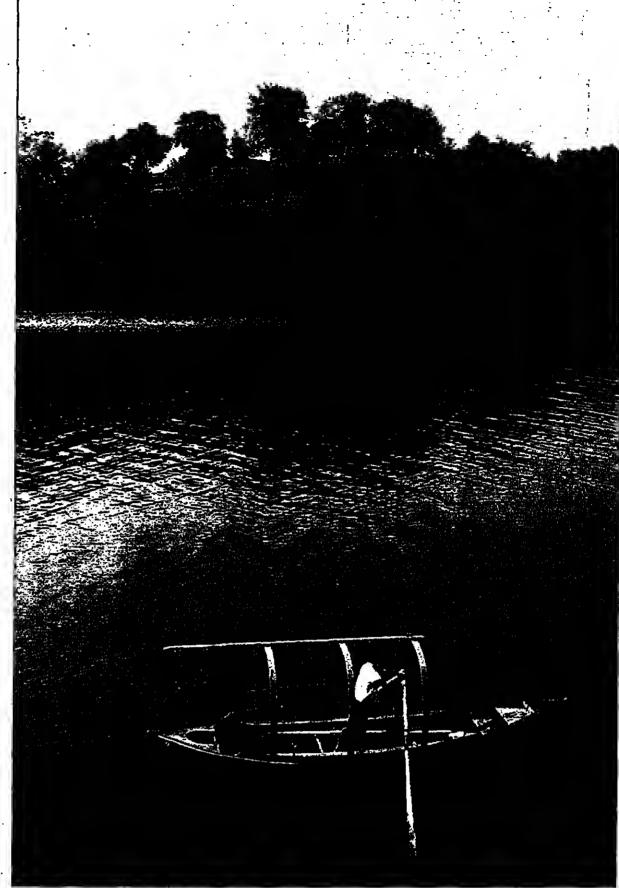
The great ochre-coloured hulk of the Hotel de la Grande Bretagne was the first truly luxurious hotel to open in Bellagio in 1861. The Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni, at the foot of the promontory - long detached from the estate whose name it shares - was originally huilt as a gift by the estate's owner, Count Frizzoni, for his wife. The Countess, however, hated the place, and the Count sold it off almost immediately. In 1872, with two new wings added, it opened for business as Bellagio's second luxury hotel

The two hotels hecame vicious rivals, even hacking different candidates at elec-tion time. However, 25 years ago the Grande Bretagne closed down, since when the Serbelloni has had the top of the market to itself. It has not squandered this good fortune: like Bellagio itself, the hotel is welcoming, discreet and luxurious in a deeply old-fashioned way, without being either snohhish or seedy.

Of course you don't have to do next to nothing during your stay in Como. The Ser-helloni has a new fitness centre where you could pump iron; there are golf courses in the hinterland, and healthy hikes among the gentle, wooded hills south of Bellagio. It's debatable, however, whether the lake is best appreciated with sweat running down one's face. Better, surely, as evening approaches, to board an ancient paddle steamer and, lulled by the thump thump thump of the engine, explore Como's sbore in the most supine fashion possible.

Getting there: Daniela Bezzi paid £156.40 for a return flight from London to Milan on Alitalia, through the Ciao Travel Agency in London (0171-493 8947). She travelled from Linate Airport in Milan to Bellagio by car, which is much the simplest way. Rental cars available at Linate. The cheaper but more complicated solution is to take train or bus to either Lecco or Como and then take a ferry from there to Bellagio.

Staying there: Bellagio has 16 hotels, ranging from the one-star Albergo Ristorante La Pargola (00 39 31 950 263), singles at around 85,000 lire (£35) to the splendour of Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni (00 39 31 950 216), where rooms range from about 300,000 to 470,000 lire (£125-195).



lake Como: a retreat since Roman times

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To celebrate Board X, the premier public Snowboarding Exhibition, in association with Bud Ice, we're giving away a snowboarding holiday for two, a variety of snowboarding prizes, plus a 10% discount off The Edge snowboarding holidays courtesy of the snowboarding specialists, Alpine Answers.

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10% discount off snowhoarding holidays. We also have an exclusive offer, you can save 10% on snowhoarding holidays when making a booking from The Edge brochure through Alpine Answers by 30 November 1996. It is a requirement of the offer that you purchase Alpine Answers Skisale Excell Ski Insurance at the time of booking. Prices are per person and cost £37.80 for a week or £44 for two weeks. To ¥ THE INDEPENDENT



The Edge offers the full snowboard



something to declare

trouble spots

Transport problems

South Africa (Johannesburg, right): Three people were killed in a rush-bour sbooting believed to he related to taxi wars. Dozens of people bave been killed in years of violence between rival taxi operators over passengers and routes in Gauteng province around Johannesburg and Pretoria, as well as other parts of South Africa - Reuter.

Russia: It is not known whether aircraft maintenance procedures are always properly observed. Where possible fly directly to your destination on a scheduled flight originating outside Russia - Further information from the Foreign Office Travel Advice Unit (0171-238 4503).

Tanzania/Zaire: Ferry services on Lake Tanganyika have been suspended after marauding Zairean soldiers, trying to



escape eastern Zaire's battle zone with their families. stormed aboard a Tanzanian ferry on the lake and stole luggage, money and a cargo of

Colombia: There is a general suspension of rail services. The state railway is bankrupt, and has been closed. A new "shadow" organisation, STF, has resumed rail service. under contract, on some lines – Thomas Cook Overseas

a likely story

If you don't put your clocks forward tonight you could miss your flight - this column last week

If you had followed our advice last Saturday, you would certainly not have missed your flight. Instead you would bave been at the airport two unnecessary hours early. Chronological confusion with the spacetime continuum here at

Canary Wharf meant we advised that a 7am GMT flight would depart at 6am BST, instead of 8am BST. Thankfully the error was spotted before the travel department turned up for work two hours early on Monday.

is £23.70. Where two or

bargain of the week

People in south-east England can benefit from the best post-privatisation deal so far - so long as they huy today, 2 November. Connex which runs services south of the capital, from Kent to Dorset - offers five consecutive days of travel for £10, which works out at £2 a day. Children aged 5-15 pay £5. For comparison, the cheapest day trip from London

Victoria to Bournemouth

more companies operate trains on the same stretch of line, eg London to Gatwick or Southampton to Bournemouth, you may travel only on Connex services. From next Monday to Wednesday, the ticket is valid only after 9.30am. And if you really want to visit Bournemouth, don't try to do so tomorrow (when Connex trains do not operate there).

A Special Announcement

A Week on the Nile - 7 nights from £395*

Travellers are returning to Egypt in great numbers but prices have not yet caught up with demand. Having secured some extraordinarily low tariffs Cruise between Aswan and Luxor on board the MS Ra in recent years, we are pleased to con-tinue to offer this superior arrangementatathractive prices. This success-ful and popular journey is based on the first-class MS Ra Nile cruiser and the tour represents excellent value for money since the tariff includes all meals, transfers, guides and excursions. The journey commences with a direct dight from Catwick to Aswan to join the MS Ra. Our week-long cruise will in-clude visits to the Temple of Edfu, Esna, Dec 2* 9* £530 - Dec 30 £625 the Temple of Karnak, the Valley of the pool, jacutza. All cabins are air con ditioned and have private bathrooms. Kings, the Temple of Queen Hatshep-sut, Luxor, Korn Ombo, and the Aswan

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THE MS RA



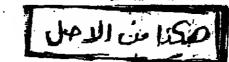
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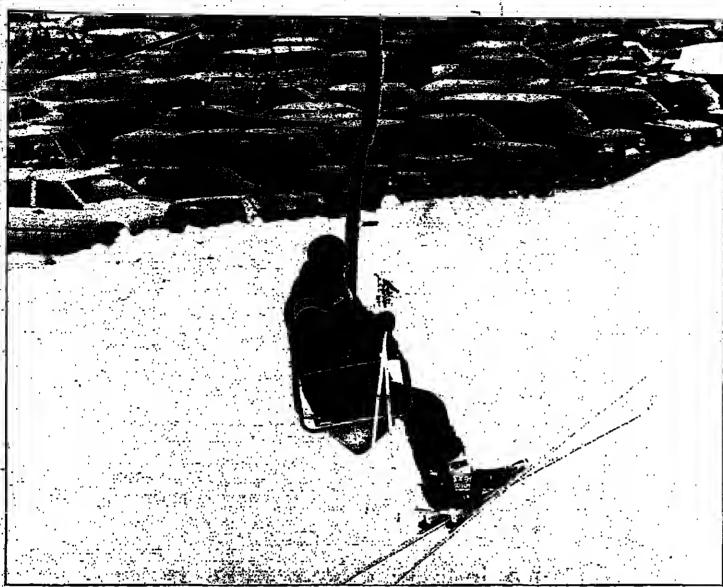
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Whatever happened to green skiing?

Ecological awareness has diminished, reports Stephen Wood



Does skiing harm the environment? Only 1.7 per cent of the beginners questioned at Caimgorm (above) think it does

Skiing Holidays

impact back-country boarding" in a recent issue of Snowboarder magazioe points out that a serious leave-it-as-you-found-it philosophy involves "no net trash gain" on the mountainside: its checklist of things you should take away with you includes

banana skins, rolling papers and "your own waste (ie shit)". On toilet paper, which the author warns will hang around for a surprisingly long time in a cold climate", it suggests that the best practices are to "burn it, pack it in a sealable bag or, better yet, use snow as a substitute. After the initial shock it cleans gently and easily with no paper residue". For further reading on the subject the article recommends a book called How to Shit in the Woods by Kathleen Meyer (published by Ten Speed Press, if you're interested).

It is equally alarming how lightly British skiers now take the effect of winter sports upon the environment. Andrew Holden, a senior lecturer at the University of North Lundon, has been researching the attitude of skiers to their environmental impact at Cairngorm, in Scotland. Standing at the top of the windswept slope with a clipboard, he asked them whether skiing is harmful to the environment. Only 38 per cent of the advanced skiers thrught that it was; among the beginners (still with a lnt in learn) the figure was 17 per cent.

Holden was even more chilled by the response to the question If you knew that by skiing you could damage the environment, would you be willing to ski less frequently?" A large majority of the advanced skiers, who betrayed what Holden calls "a hard attitude" throughout the survey, were unwilling: only 18 per cent would be prepared to cut down on their skiing. Among the bewildered beginners, 29 per cent would do so; the intermediates, at 21 per cent, were intermediate.

Five years ago, such a survey would surely have introduced a different response. In the early 1990s, environmental damage was a big issue. This oewspaper devoted a whole page, in December 1991, to an apocalyptic vision of what skiing was doing - and could do - to the Alps. The high-

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t is alarming how far some
American snowboarders take
their respect for "Lowareas. An article on "Lowment back counts by making (appliances) of grown making (prolongation of snow cover to the detriment of plant life; heavy use of water and are all laudable - and the most energy resources), piste levelling (removal of topsoil; destruction of vegetation) and off-piste skiing (damage to young trees; distur-bance of wildlife habitats). In those days, skiing seemed a shamefully brutal thing to do in

the fragile Alpine environment.
Since then, economic recession
has largely pushed greeo issues off the news agenda. Skiers have changed: now only Cairngorm's advanced (ie experienced) skiers remember the environmental concern about skiing, which came as a surprise to beginners.

The skiing industry has changed, too. The poor snows of recent years have led to a huge increase in the number of snow-making cannons in the Alps, a process which Stem magazine referred to as "tourism's armaments race". But poor snow may also have contributed to the decline in the number of skiers, which has limited expansion at most resorts (thus weakening the environmental lobby, which tends to be mobilised by major developments). And the loss of winter income has led resorts to try to develop their summer husiness, making them more environmentally aware, at least superficially: slopes scarred by skiers don't appeal to summer hill-walkers. (Perversely, Cairngorm has proposed a majnr development - a funicular railway for which planning permission has been granted, but is now subject to appeal - yet it is the increased traffic of sum-

environmentalists.) Andrew Holden's research in Cairngorm suggests that skiers (or at least the British ones) oow regard mouotain resorts less as a natural environment, mnre as an environment for skiing - a playmarketing potential in eovironmental improvements, ootably Les Arcs. Its agenda has partly been thrust upon it, because it borders a oational park; and it partly flows both from the resort's policy decision to develop as a area, and from its need to cater

mer visitors which most concerns

summer visitors. But the various initiatives at Les Ares (burying power cables, limiting off-piste skiing to protect the habitats of the endangered black grouse. banning cars from resort areas) recent is strikingly canny.

This year the resort has stripped a piste of its topsoil, taken out all the rocks to smooth the slope, then replaced the tupsoil and planted it with bardy Alpine grass. The result will be a slope which is skiable with only 5cm of snow. minimising any need for snow-making, which is less subject to soil erosion; and which louks great for summer visitors,

Back-country snowboarders will be less impressed by Les Ares' installation of Ill toilets on the slipes. But ski resorts are in the husiness of responding to customer desires (market research at Les Ares showed they wanted toilers). So if customers don't want protection of the mountain environment, the resorts have little incentive to provide it. The same is true probably more so - of tour operaiors, to whom skiers actually pay their cheques. Which makes all the more laudable the attempt by the Association of Indepen-dent Tour Operaturs (AITO) to increase environmental awareness amnng its members' customers. Most of its 29 ski tour operators subscribe to tand publish in their brochures) the "Environmental Skier's Code". devised by AJTO and Green Flag International to "conserve the natural beauty of the mountains for the future". Three of them - Le Ski, Simply Ski and Ski Peak - are also participating with AITO this season in an EU-funded project to generate increased incume for environmental management in the Alps.

The most troubling thing about Andrew Hulden's research in Cairngorm is that the new arrivals in the winter sports market young snowboarders - show less ground. But some resorts still see respect for the environment than any other group, even the advanced skiers. It is a pity they have not learned from their American hrethren that we shouldo't shit un the mountains.

For information and brochures on better rather than bigger skiing the Association of Independent Tour Operators, phone 0181-607 for the cosmetic demands of 9080.

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The winner takes a hike

he worst prize offered by any travel section. ever, has attracted an embarrassment of entries. This was the plan: match excerpts from Independent travel stories with a time and place, and win a trip with me on a writing assignment to Berlin. In accordance with our no freehies policy, though, this trip involves a dismal combination of train, ferry, more trains and finally several hundred chilly miles of hitch-hiking across northern Europe before checking into a former DDR youth camp in the east of the city. After a day-and-a-half of heavy duty research, the lucky winner gets to retrace his or her steps in even colder temperatures.

Instead of the three oddballs you might expect to enter such a competition, several hundred applied though a dozen or more took the precaution of omitting names and addresses to make sure they could not be contacted). But picking a "winner" (to use the term loosely) from among those who did identify has been a struggle.

Most people got the answers right. So the final decision was made on the tie-break: if the first prize is a dismal weekend across the autobahns of northern Europe, what should the second prize be?

Since the competition coincided with the party conference season, it was not surprising that a number of political suggestions were made. J Tydeman of Bangor offered; "Backpack to Brussels with Sir James Goldsmith", while Adrian Barker of Tonbridge suggested "A free rail and hotel pass for all three political party conferences".

A number of entrants felt that the choice of companion was crucial. P Moore of Poole offers the "Same trip as the first prize except accompanying John Gummer, who passes his time telling you about his fine environmental work," which is I think the first time I have been compared favourably with John Gummer (at least I think it's a favourable comparison). C Bettington of south London recommends "A two-week trip across south London with John Major, listening to his boring anecdotes about his youth".

Certain motifs developed rapidly - and south London was one of them. For example, Michael Knaggs of Hampstcad suggests "A short, all-expenses-paid walk in the south London kush". Other parts of Britain were also picked out: Will Dew of Rugby chose "An odyssey to Milton Keynes, in February, to count and classify roundahouts and other interesting road formations. Camping accommodation available on isolated. deserted islands", while Alun Roberts of Mid Glamorgan recommends "A full morning tour of the Barbican. conducted by Lady Porter and Anneka Rice".

Retaliation in the London/Wates needling is provided by Neil Setchfield of London SW7, with the blunt: "A weekend in Cardiff. (Chris Walmsley of Surrey is disqualified for a wholly unwarranted slight against my home town: "A long weekend in Crawley on a budget of £35.)

The single entity that attracted most suggestions is, like The Independent, celebrating its 10th anniversary this month. Tim



Levell of Guildford puts forward "A journey around the M25 on its 10th birthday, complete with stops at its visitor 'attractions' -Heathrow, Lakeside Thurrock and Clacker Lane Services". Gordon Hulley of

Perthshire: "A four-day walking tour along selected stretches of the M25: engineering, farms, Travelodges and the like, with only the fumes and the hirds for company". And Peter King of Bromley: "A dismal hitch around the M25 and up the M1 to interview the November-Uniform-Juliet man in Luton" (an official at Luion Hoo who demanded to see my National Union of Journalists card).

Journalism provided some ideas. Mike Polkey of London suggests: "An Outward Bound-style corporate morale-boosting weekend on Dartmoor in February with the editorial board of the Daily Mail," while Carl Pendle of Chichester headlines his entry "Dismal trip with Simon Calder competition" and offers "A ride with ... on a dune huggy at Pismo beach in California", suggesting another travel journalist who will remain nameless.

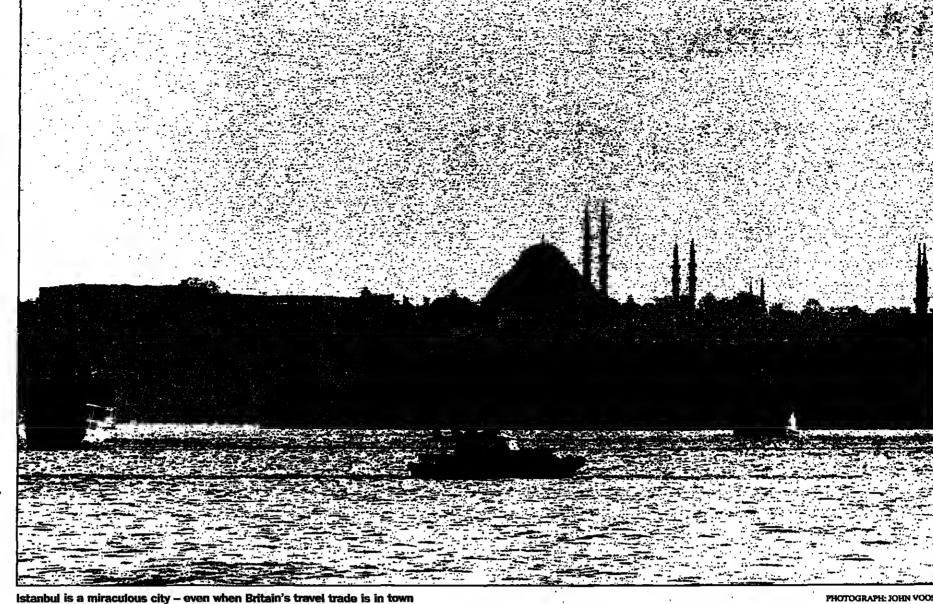
Those who suggested European trips fell into two hroad categories: gloaters and masochists. Among the former were Kevin McNamara of County Down

- "A first-class plane ticket to Berlin, a stay in a five-star hotel and the opportunity to meet the 'winners' and gloat" - and Annie McStay of Falmouth: "Travel in flasb white Porsche. Chunnel it: streak across northern Europe, no hitchers, to Berlin. Arrive at the Hotel Unter den Linden for cocktails".

The masochistic tendency included Richard Marshall of south London ("A pilgrimage to Sanuago de Compostela in Spain. Fly to Bilbao, walk 300 miles on your knees, sleep rough. Flagellation optional") and David Dunlop of Hastings: "To make the same journey in the back seat of a Trabant. complete with an 'Eat British Becf' sticker in the rear window".

By now the field was thinning out, and after much mulling and sifting I was left with just three. Alison Clements of Maidstone, who recommends "A day's rafting down Sweden's Klarelven River, then a folk-dancing display and an unsuccessful moose hunt. I've done it"; Suc Bedry of Glasgow - "A tour of Poland's railways on a self-propelled track trolley" - and Toby Smith of Lentherhead: "A midwinter tour of Lincolnshire by Sinclair C5".

The clincher in Ms Clements's favour was that it is her birthday on 9 November, when (all being well, which it probably won't bc) we should be in Berlin. Everyone else just gets a card of commiscration from me - and, almost certainly, a better weekend than Ms Clements and me. You will be able to find out how awful it was on 16 November.



An overbooking of travel agents

Simon Calder attends the travel industry's get-together in Istanbul

then?" I ventured, a tri-fle nervously. The veteran of numerous Ahta conventions, who had been regaling me with tales of drunken debauchery at previous travel industry gettogethers, nodded. "That's exactly

on Monday night, I shall be able to I arrived in this great city an Abta

It all started in Brighton, in 1951. As the Festival of Britain took the nation into the second half of the 20th century, the year-old Associa-tion of British Travel Agents decided that it should insugate an annual event for members to meet and discuss matters of mutual concern and interest - in other words, network. The first 20 Abta conventions were firmly UK-based, matching the predominance of bolidays for British tourists; the 1960 event, aboard SS Oriana, and a couple of excursions

to Dublin was as exotic as it got.
Then, in 1970, a minor revolution: a foreign venue. The unusual choice was Rotterdam, neither then nor

became as much a matter of "where

Association, which includes almost a dismal summer for the industry. all travel agents and tour operators, have paid £300-500 each to attend the event, including reduced-rate air By the end of the farewell party fares and hotel accommodation.

beloved of OU undergraduates. But ration was replaced by luxury leather armchairs, and are staying free-ofcharge in the Hilton, courtesy of the Turkish government. As a representative of the Independent I am not paying to attend the business sessions at the convention. But in accordance with newspaper's policy of paying its own way, and meeting the challenge of finding the most cost-effective route, my bicycle and I had an unusual journey by air first to Stuttgart, thence to Thessaloniki, followed by a variety of vehicles across the horder before finally pedalling into Istanhul late on Thursday. I am writing from the Ottoman Guest House around the corner from the Blue Mosque, £15 a night and very nice too.

Turkey's largest city was a safe

hit like an Open Uni-versity Summer School, from then on, the Abta convention The 1995 venue was Sun City, near die. In Travel Weekly a fortnight ago, journalists. Johannesburg. Only haif the precan we go next?" as "what's on the dicted numbers turned up. Most members thought it too far to go, Eight hundred members of the especially after what turned out to be

Istanbul bas proved more of an attraction, which is a good thing since there is a lot of serious work to be done. The event coincides with Journalists fare even better: most a crucial moment in the British confirm or refute any similarity to arrived on the Air 2000 flight in travel trade. Is it going to tackle the the notorious "Last Chance Disco" which the normal charter configu- 21st century by adopting properly Travel and Tourism Council. professional principles hefitting a hig, growing and rapidly diversifying industry? Or will it continue to lurch from one crisis to the next, booming and busting in such quick succession that the customer can't

> early bookers. Some of the travelling public at Heathrow this week prohably regarded the hordes of travel agents heading east merely as an irrelevance or inconvenience. (Incidentally, what is the collective noun for travel agents; an overbooking, perhaps?) But the decisions and deals made here will have repercussions for holidaymakers - and those who

tell whether that £99 deal is a last-

minute giveaway or a come-on for

work in travel The travel trade so often presents

the respected analyst Bruce Jones reflected wearily on a profits warning by a large tour operator: "It reminds the City of bow we used to view holiday companies. They were always regarded as a low-grade, punting stock." Yet this conceals an extremely important industry: at least 5.5 per cent of Gross Domestic Product. says the British Tourist Authority, double that according to the World

Interestingly, the present government has not seen fit to send any representatives. But the Labour Party bas despatched both Nigel Griffith MP (unkindly referred to by one delegate yesterday as a "travel industry groupie") and Jack Cunningham, the shadow Heritage Secretary.

Some, no doubt, will miss Dr Cunningham's presentation "New Labour - Nothing to Fear in favour of doing some deals. Abta is a strange sort of trade association, representing both the tour operators and the High Street travel agents. An equivalent might be the music industry inviting the manager of every branch of Our Price to Cannes for its annual junket. But this means networking with other agents, air-

- If I wished, I could have started yesterday with the Big Eurostar Breakfast; progressed to the Sun-Tours "afternoon to remember" (lunch, Bosporus cruise with "time for photographs and liquid refresbment", afternoon tea); staggered on to the First Timer's party sponsored by American Express; and finisbed up at the Swissotel Welcome Party. But, as I have to keep remind-ing myself, Istanbul is a miraculous city of seven million intriguing sould, even when Britain's travel trade is in town. Once the official business sessions are over, Asia meets Europe strikes me as more intriguing than Airtours meets Thomson, But maybe I'll check out that farewell

HET AND PARTY

identify fact

Finally, a trade secret that those with a friend, lover or colleague at the Abta convention should be in on. You may get a postcard from him or her that reassures you that you are uppermost in their thoughts - after all, they went to all that trouble to get the card and stamp. You should know that the conference pack each delegate receives includes, courtesy of Cresta, a pre-stamped postcard. there are plenty of opportunities for Perhaps that's an idea the Open University should pick up.

Along the Bosporus

Visiting Istanbul without taking a trip along the Bosporus is unthinkable. The 30-kilometre strait links the Marmara and Black Seas and well over 200 ferry crossings are made every day between the Asian and European sides, and across the Golden Hom.

Aboard M/S Caner Gonyeli, we moved away from the sprawl of Taksim into the main strait. After 15 minutes, we docked close to the 19th-century Dolmabance Palace. Here Kemal Atatürk – Turkey's first president and all-round cult hero - died of cirrhosis of the liver in 193B.

After a short time we departed for the Asian side and docked at Kanlica, with its lively mix of old wooden houses and gaudy new buildings lying close to the water line. Another short trip and another quick stop at Yeniköy on the European side. Then, after a fleeting docking at Sanyer, we proceeded to Kavagi. Here, a liny fortress rose behind the sprawling huildings, overshadowed

We made our last stop on the Asian side in the shadow of a Genoese castle high an the hill. After our two-hour trip, we were awarded two hours to explore. We stepped into an area of cafés dominated by massive plane trees. A man tried to sell a meal by holding up a skewer of prawns and a fillet of plaice.

Skirting such eating opportunities, I set out to explore. I passed a small mosque with dark green graves, each topped with a turban or a fez. Beyond was a narrow, cobbled road lined with quaint houses. A small girl done up in pink came up to say hello. Behind her, an old lady in a bulging velvet skirt and

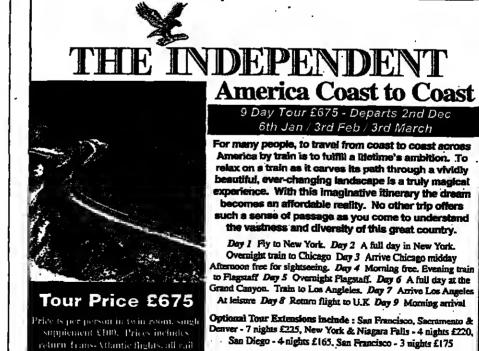


headdress looked on with matriarchal displeasure. Cows grazed among scattered rubbish sacks; up a bank, a pile of coal had been stashed inside a fence bordering a block of flats. A trio of Italian tourists in Armani suits wandered past - a sudden contrast to this impoverished scene.

I rounded a comer into a breathtaking view. Far in the distance, a two-mile bay signalled the end of the Bosporus and the start of the Black Sea. Only a lighthouse, isolated on the point, lay between me and the Russian coastline.

Our trip back was magnificent: we sailed into a reddening sunset that threw the dames and minarets of the Topkapi Palace and the Hagia Sophia into relief. It was all too soon that we reached the modem mayhem that is Istanbul.

Mark Dudley



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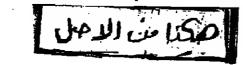
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THE INDEPENDENT • SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER 1996

FRICH - THE INDEPENDER.

Where Europe meets the Orient

Frances Cairncross spends a long weekend in a city of minarets, mayhem - and infinite pleasures

t was the final evening that really brought it home to us. There we were, at a table in the Flower Passage, a covered market which is now full of small restaurants. As we ate our meze, the owner performed the normal evening ritual of Istanbul restaurateurs in the touristy areas: importuning passing foreigners in whatever he guessed was the right language. A couple of men were persuaded and waved to the far end of our table. There, to our astonishment, was Bruno, my brother's best friend, with a travelling companion who also knew my brother.

But the coincidence, we all decided, was perhaps not really so amazing. They were having a weekend break on Air Miles, and so were we. Istanbul is about the right distance from London-a threehour flight; most business travellers could expect to tot up the miles within a year; and the flights are empty enough for seats

to be fairly available. On top of which, it is a city of infinite pleasures for the tourist. First, it is big; by far the largest city in Europe (or rather, partly in Europe), with a population of 15m. That means tourists can fairly easily be swallowed into the city's ordinary life. Next, it is inexpensive: when the woman in the foreign exchange booth at Heathrow began to count, "10 million, 20 million, 30 million", it was clear this was a country with an impressively rampant inflation problem.

Then again, it manages to be beautiful, even after 40 years of hideous redevel-opment. Not only is it built on hills, but a vast area of water stretches through the midst of the city. Asia is sliced from Europe by the Bosporus; and the European side, in turn, is split by the waters of the Golden Horn. The result is bridges and ferries, and long uninterrupted views of domes and minarets.

We bad takeo a ferry, earlier that day, up the Bosporus, towards the mouth of the Black Sea. We passed vast tankers, painted with "No Smoking" ootices in prudently large letters: a reminder that this is the only outlet for the region's oil and gas to the Mediterranean. We cruised under the new Bosporus bridge, built more or less on the spot where Darius, king of Persia, led his army across the strait on a bridge of boats to bound the Scythians. As we went from port to port, walked its length one afternoon, squelchthe boat became a sort of floating empo- ing down muddy lanes in some places, you as clean as a freshly boiled potato, too. Istanbul's thriving Covered Market

Turkish facts

Getting there: Turkish Airlines (0171-499 4499) has a fare of £193 including tax from Heathrow to Istanbul. A cheaper alternative is from Gatwick on Azerbaijan Airlines (0171-439 2281), for £156 including. but the carrier has only one flight each week - on Tuesdays.

Getting in: Bruish passport holders are required to pay £10 for a Turkish

More information: available from the Turkish Tourist Information Centre, 1st Floor, 170 Piccadilly, London W1V 9DD (0171-629 7771)

rium, with salesmen hawking watches and guidebooks and sweets. We docked briefly at the little suburb of Kanlica, famed for its yoghurt: predictably, a man loaded with yoghurt pots clambered aboard and toured the ship, selling his ways.

The city's most extraordinary quality, though, is the antiquity of its buildings and the intermingling of Roman, Christian and Ottoman cultures. Immense monuments survive from the days when this was Con-stantinople, capital of the Roman Empire. Haghia Sophia, a vast Christian basilica run up in under five years by the emperor Justinian in the middle of the 6th century, set the pattern with its domes and minarets for the city's mosques once the Ottomans took feel wheo they are steaming". Well simit over a millennium later. Its huge dome soars as high as a 15-storey building. John Julius Norwich's history, Byzantium, records that to contemporary historians it was the eighth wonder of the world, standing among other buildings "like a buge ship anchored anchored among them", with its dome seemingly "suspended from heaven by a golden chain".

A century before that phenomenal feat of engineering, Theodosius, an earlier emperor, had run a seven-mile wall around the landward side of the city. Great swathes of its gigantic battlements and watchtowers are still in place. We

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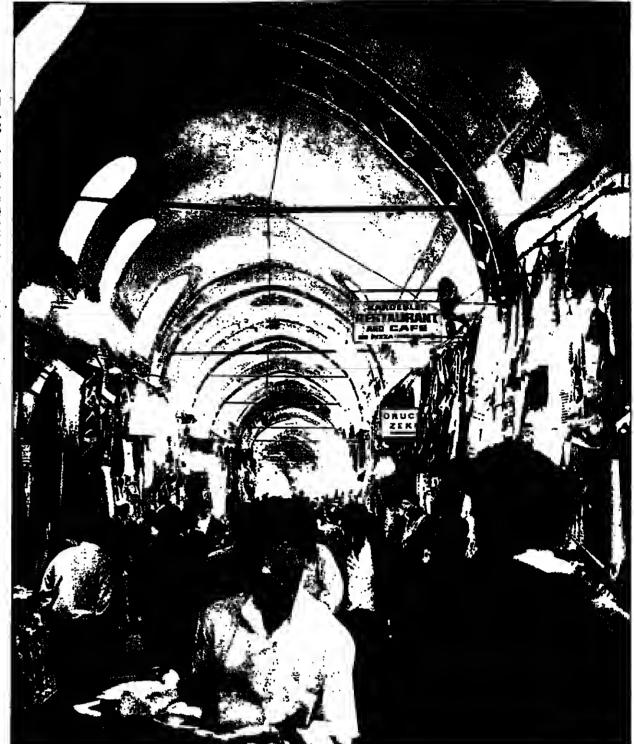
trekking along the outer ring road in others. In the poor, urban villages that crowd up against the inner edge of the wall, nobody begged from us or tried to mug us. We met no other tourists.

They all seem to be in the Covered Market and at Topkapi Sarayi, the palace of the Ottoman sultans. After the Ottomans captured Constantinople in the 15th cen-tury, they set about building themselves the last word in splendour. Most of the tourists make straight for the harem, where we joined a queue for tickets behind a valiant Turkish woman guide, who was attempting to deliver a dose of straight history to a group of guffawing Scandinavians.

As a way of running an empire, it would be hard to devise a worse system. Grand viziers were lopped so frequently that the chief executioner doubled up as head gardener - to be handily on the spot, not doubt. The viziers had to contend with rival political advice from squads of concubines, whose qualifications as Caucasian Christian slaves hardly sound right for the job. All those concubines had another politically disruptive effect: the sheer num-bers of potential heirs to the throne guaranteed enough family strife and carnage to make even the Scottish medieval court sound like a haven of tranquillity.

From this mayhem, we retreated that evening to Turkey's most soothing pastime.
The Turkish bath in Pera, round the corner from our hotel, offered an evening identical to one described by Thackeray early in the 19th century. Like him, we lolled on a sort of ceramic hob, in "a soft boiling simmer, which, no doubt, potatoes mered, we were massaged by a hefty figure wielding "a quantity of lather, in the midst of which is something like old Miss McWhirter's flaxen wig that she is so proud of," and emerged agreeing that "you little knew what saponicity was till you entered a Turkish bath".

Strolling back towards the Flower Market for that final dinner, we felt like millionaires (which, thanks to Turkish inflation, we temporarily were). We were purified and refreshed, languorous and lazy, exercised and cultured. Not many capital cities within weekending distance from London would offer such a rich mix of the exotic and the historic - and leave



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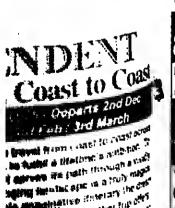
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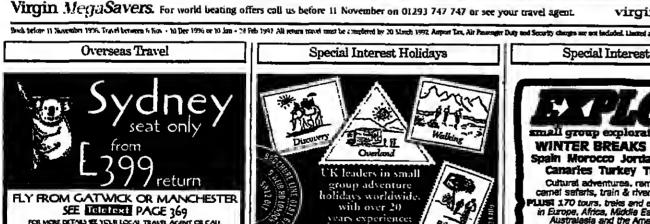
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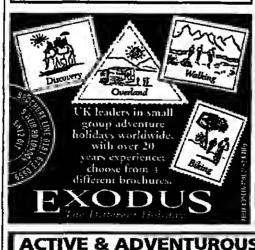
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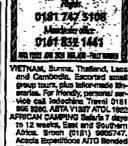
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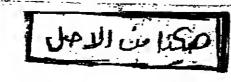


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travel

Centuries of living in Wales

The Cunninghams take on the Museum of Welsh Life. By Catherine Stebbings

t the open-air Museum of Welsh Life, at St Fagan's near Cardiff. there's a hands-on approach to the past. More than 30 huildings have heeo removed from all over Wales and re-erected to show how people have lived, worked and played over the

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The museum is set in the extensive grounds of St Fagan's Castle, an elegant Elizabethan mansion huilt on the site of its wooden namesake. The castle has a formal garden complete with topiary, mulberry grove, rose garden, medicinal herb collection, terraces and fishponds. Beyond this lies an amazingly eclectic col-lection of vernacular architecture, each huilding recording an instant of Weish history: a cold, windswept cock-fighting pit, which in its day would have been crowded with beer-swigging gamhlers; a hright lin-tle Unitarian chapel; a dark farmhouse lit solely by the crackling fire; a Victorian school; a local store smelling of coffee beans; and the stark, highly polished Miners' Institute receotly brought here from a street in Oakdale.

Although this is essentially an outdoor.

museum, on a rainy day there is plenty to see in the indoor galleries. Everything Welsh is explored: farming, music, min-ing, medicine, cooking, corn dollies.

The visitors

Richard Cunningham, ordinand and consultant to university Christian Unions, and his wife Ruth, took their children, Nicole, nine, Ashley, six, and Jack, one.

Ashley: It was exciting, it was good fun and I learnt a lot about the way people used to live. My favourite place was the Celtic village where there were wild boar feeding just next to the ditch around the village. I also liked the white farmhouse where the goose scared all of us except me.

The castle was my best house, with all those rooms and secret places. It was very big and the kitchen was really good. In those days they cooked over the hig fire. and they read by candlelight. I would prefer to turn the light on.

Nicole: I liked the red house most. It was painted red to keep the evil spirits away.
It was very old-fashioned. Inside it was very dark but I thought the kitchen was a cheerful room and made the rest of the house that we didn't have to inject too much as seem less gloomy. There was a nice fire parents. The children enjoyed following burning. I would only want to live there if the route in the guidebook, which was also it had electric light, because I like to read. clearly signposted. Around every corner I suppose I could have read by candlelight the children could dive into something and listened to the mice and the birds nesting in the straw of the roof above.

I didn't like the Celtic village. The small, round houses were completely dark. I could hardly see a thing. Inside I was stumbling through the blackness and there was mud everywhere. If they had lit clothes in the tailor's shop so the man



The Museum of Welsh Life: a hands-on approach to the past

would have been full of smoke and very smelly. It's just not a very nice place to live, but I suppose that is the type of thing you would expect for 2000 years ago.

It was interesting to see how other people, the rich and the poor, would have lived. I suppose they wouldn't have been used to it so they wouldn't have minded living like that. I am very glad I live now.

Richard: This was a great day out because the whole thing was so highly structured

cottage, a toll house or a sawmill. The notice-boards at each site were good for a quick overview but the costumed staff working at each site were terrific. Ashley was interested in the

clothes and measured him for a suit. Nicole was interested in the war coupons, so he explained the quota system to her and told her it would cost her two-thirds of her annual quota for a winter coat. The guide had lived through the Second World War so he was part of the social history himself.

Rath: I thought this was a good way of learning. It was suitable for all ages; even my grandparents would enjoy it.

I evjoyed seeing how the different huildings related to one another, the taifor's shop, ironmonger's works, school, chapel, the saw mill and the workers union new, whether it was a pigsty, a worker's as well as putting each other in a historical context.

The deal

Location: The Museum of Welsh Life (01222 569441) is four miles west of the fire in the middle the whole place opened a drawer, showed him some Cardiff off the A4232, 3 miles from junc-

Access: The large car park at the entrance includes hays for the disabled. Access on good paths around the open-air museum is on foot only. Much of the museum is level, but there is a steep climb at the castle end. The site is large, so be prepared to walk a fair distance if you wish to see both the castle and the majority of sites. Opening times: Daily, 10am-5pm (1 Oct-30 June), 10am-6pm (1 July-30 Sept). Closed 24 and 25 Dec. Admission: November-Easter: Adults,

£4; OAPS, Students, UB40s, £3; Children (five to 15) £2: Under-fives free. Family day ticket based on two adults ildren, £10. Faster Adults £5; Concession £3.75; Children £2.50; Family £12.50. Dogs are allowed on a lead but not inside the houses or the Visitor Centre. Guidebook (£1.50) is well worth having. Tactile map and Braille worksheets for the visually hand-

Food: The self-service Museum Restaur- for disabled. Baby-changing facilities.

Are we nearly there?

A weekly round-up of events for children

Parents can celebrate Guy Fawkes with their children from today into next week. Explosive evenings include steam railways and nighttime trips to theme parks. There are more events than you can shake a sparkler at, so get in touch with your local authority if there's nothing here near you.

Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumbria 1,000 guys will be consigned to the flames. Live music, lasers and children's entertainment. Spittal Point, 6pm-9pm. Tomorrow

Bishop Auckland, Durham Fireworks are themed around Euro '96 and the Olympics and set to various sporting theme tunes. Town Recreation Ground, Bob Hardisty Drive, starts 0.30pm, fireworks 7.30pm Monday, 4 November

Embsay, North Yorkshire At the Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway, trains run 5,30pnt-8pm, each journey lasting about 40 minutes. Bonfire's lit at 7pm. fireworks at 7,15pm. Adults £3.50, children £1.70 including train ride. Embsay Station, North Yorkshire

Alton Towers, Staffordshire Work through 125 rides, then enjoy a free firework show themed around the historic towers, while shooting The Rapids, Alten Towers Theme Park, Alton, Staffordshire (01538 702200), Full day £17.50/£13.50, after 3pm half price. Fireworks start opm, rides open

until Spm. Tonight and tomorrow Brentwood, Essex Spend a bombastic bonfire night with music from The War of the Worlds, Live bands and dancing, a funfair and food. Gates open 5pm. fireworks Spm-10.30pm Adults £3, children £1.50, (Before 6.30pm, up to four children under 12 with adults admitted free). Brentwood

Centre, Doddinghurst Road, Brentwood, Essex, Tonight Weymouth, Dorset All-day firework festival includes fairground rides, a barbecue and Guy Fawkes competition for children. In the evening a giant fire will be lit. The beach, Weymouth,

Dorset 12pm-10pm. Tomorrow

London

Health & Leisure

Pally is justly famous. Live music in the Palm Court and a children's fun fair in the Great Hall. Alexandra Palace, north London, from 7.30pm. Tonight

Liese Spencer

Fireworks and fancy dress

Bridgwater's brilliant Guy Fawkes celebrations. By Brigid McConville

ow has it come to pass that a small town in Somerset is home to the higgest illuminated carnival procession in the world? Perhaps because the brains behind the Gunpowder Plot was a local man: it should he "Robert Persons Night", not Guy Fawkes Night, though the staunchly Protestant West Country population were never too keen to lay claim to this subversive Jesuit priest. Indeed, while the rest of

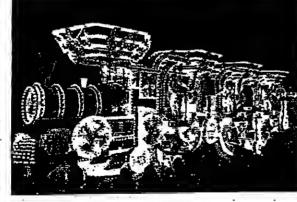
the country went on hurning papist effigies or rolling blazing tar barrels, Bridgwater people transformed the same traditioo into a modern spectacular of light and sound that now attracts 100,000plus spectators a year, and which locals claim is second only to the Rio Carnival.

We've lived here for 11 years and each year we weakly threateo our children that we may give it a miss. But we've never yet done so - and never regretted it, either. The Bridgwater Carnival, love it or hate it, is unique.

For two hours, a two-milelong procession of tractordrawn floats winds at walking pace through this market town. The biggest floats are 100ft long, brilliantly illuminated by up to 20,000 light bulbs. Most of them belt out deafening music, while carnivalites in fancy dress endlessly repeat a dance routine. At intervals a "walking entry", or push-cart, suggests how things used to be before the procession went hi-tech. And the themes of the floats are chosen as if politi-

cal correctness had not yet

reached the West Country.



Camival comes to Bridgwater

carnival goes by without a cart on a "jungle" theme with blacked up people brandishing spears. Blokes in nappies sucking on dummies is another recurrent motif - and often two or more floats have the same music. ("Tiger Feet" and "La Bamha" are perennial favourites).

Sometimes it's hard to believe you are in the middle of Somerset as Spanish-American, Egyptian - you name it - themes follow each other through the town. One minute you are looking at The Matadors with a dozen men in bullfighting outfits stepping out to "Viva España"; next it's the Boy Pharoah on a gilded throne surrounded by swarthy slaves.

Only these are all homogenised by modern carnival tradition into sub-Disney ciphers. By necessity there is a lor of nylon and plastic; by definition there is a strong show-hiz flavour. You can look at it all as fantastically naff, American-influenced and derivative: or you can he awestruck by the sheer effort, men in drag with balloons up creativity and commitment carnivalites line up, each with their jumpers, and never a of the people who have a huge firework on the end of (01278 429288).

worked all year to put this

Often there is some ghastly, drink-related accident during carnival fortnight. Since we've been here there have been several deaths involving people falling off floats and getting run over. One year, a tableaux floar (on which participants have to keep absolutely still) depicted the crucifixion. A local GP told us that the man playing Jesus came close to death, after two hours on th cross on a freezing November night. The night culminates in the "squibhing" in Bridg-water High Street, when 100

show together. And make no mistake, half the town is involved. The carnival clubs, often attached to local pubs, spend all year running fêtes, raffles, dances and concerts to raise the £10,000-plus it takes to create a float. They do so partly because they love it, and partly to raise money for charity. This year Bridgwater College launched an NVO in carnival skills (Certificate of Performance Art).

a pole. These are lit simultaneously, filling the High Street ro its rooftops with huge eruptions of white sparks.

After the squibbing, the crowds wait outside the Town Hall for the judges' verdicts on this year's entries. "Black Friday follows - named for the quality of the hangovers and for many of the next 10 nights the carnivalites get hack into their costumes to tour the neighbouring towns.

With many local friends, we tend to wait till the Saturday when the carnival goes through North Petherton, a few miles south of Bridgwater. As we walk across fields towards the start of the carnival we get a backstage view of the floats preparing

for action. Under immense kilowattage, the nervous spacemen and spear-chuckers practise their steps on the pavement. There is always one float condemned to lastminute generator failure, but these sad, darkened hulks get as much applause as any other - because the show must go on.

Not at all what Father Robert Persons and his cronies had in mind.

How to get there: Public transporthrain to Bridgwater avoids pressure on parking spaces. Police close roads through the town at 6.30pm; the procession starts at at 7.15pm. When to go: Thursday is Bridg

water Carnival day. The following Saturday it moves to North Petherton; Monday to Burnham-on-Sea; Wednesday to Shepton Mallet; Friday to Wells: Saturday to Glastonbury: Monday to Westonsuper-Mare. Details from Chris Hocking

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ialities include faggots, steak in alc £4.25,

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Cherishing Mother Earth

In the first of a monthly series on gardening principles, Anna Pavord advises on care of the soil

oil isn't sexy. It's sad but it's true. Gardeners may sigh over their salvias and worship their wisterias, but soil they take for granted. In gardening books you can bet that any chapter on soil will be illustrated with a hefty boot doing impossibly tiring things with a spade. I sympath-ise with readers who may already be turn-ing away in droves from this column. fearing that it will all he about double dig-

ging, bastard trenching and the like.

I have the same problem with anything to do with DIY. All those instructions about preparing walls before you paper may be music to some ears. Not mine. I'm only interested in the final effect. But soil is different. It is a living thing, to be treated with consideration and respect. It is not inexhaustible. It gets tired and hungry and sick. If it only ever gets chemical nedicines chucked at it, it turns into a kind of addict, able to function only with stronger and stronger doses of drugs.

Soil is a mixture of bits of rock, water and organic matter. Sandy soils are made from relatively large hits of rock, clay soils from small particles. One is called light, the other heavy. Success in gardening lies in getting the right balance between the two, the right structure. For that, you need the proper ratio between earth crumbs and air pockets. On heavy clay soils, there is not enough air. Plant roots keep bumping their noses on the underground equivalent of brick walls. On light, sandy soils, there is too much air, and the fine, hairy rootlets that absorb nutrients are unable to clutch at what they need.

Between the two is a perfect soil. This is the fahled loam, and you can magic it into being by adding humus to your soil at every opportunity. The easy way is by mulching heavily over the surface of the soil, leaving the earthworms to drag the humus underground. Humus opens up heavy soils and adds hulk to light ones.

In natural habitats, soil is replenished with a litter of dying vegetation and animal droppings, gradually pulled down into the earth by worms and insects. The garden, though, is an unnatural babitat, where we whisk away dying vegetation like dirty coffee mugs from the sitting room. That's why gardeners bave to compensate by blanketing their plots with compost. Anything bulky and organic will do: mushroom compost, spent hops, home-made compost, farmyard manure.

Io town gardens, where there is often no access from front to back garden except through the bouse, this is easier said than done. But done it must be: You do not expect a building to last unless it has decent foundations. The same goes for plants. If the roots are happy, the rest of the plant will mostly take care of itself.

Plant roots need passages along which they can run and from which they can absorb the nutrients necessary for healthy passages. Chemical fertilisers don't.

The minerals that plants need for healthy growth, generally lumped to-gether under the heading "trace elements", include boron, copper, iron, manganese and zinc. In fertile soils, they are present naturally, but lack of them shows up in plant deficiency diseases. Organic animal manures are rich in trace elements and if you use these regularly. you are unlikely to have problems. Mag-



nesium deficiency (leaves turn brown and wither) is more prevalent on acid soils tban alkaline ones. Chlorosis is more likely on limy soils: leaves that should be bright, pulsating green turn a pallid, minerals it needs from the soil because they are locked up by too much lime.

Acid and alkaline are terms that apply to the pH (the poteotial of hydrogen) in the soil. The pH scale runs from 1 to 14 with neutral somewhere in the middle. Above that dividing line, soils are said to be alkaline, below it. acid. Most vegetables grow best in slightly alkaline soil.

the charm of toy chemistry sets, are available to tell you whether you bave one or the other. Happy gardeoers go with the flow and grow plants that like their soil.

Megalomaniacs find this a difficult gardens and fill them with a different kind of soil, hoping to boodwink plants into believing that everything is as it should be. For a while, this works. But gradually, the soil's true constituents leach into the pre-tend patch and take it over. Or the plant's roots wander outside the cordon sanitaire and choke on the unfamiliar food. And there is nothing more miser-

only when the soil is dry enough oot to stick to the soles of your boots. On beavy by frost (you soon learn in gardening oot to do jobs that others, such as frost and worms, can do for you). You also dig to

weeds or other organic material. But digging no longer has the beroic status it once bad - along with bastard trenching and double digging, which is twice as back-breaking as the ordinary Rhododendrons occid acid soil, between able in a garden than a rbododendron kind. Only for masochists does digging now loom large in the gardening calen-

get air into compacted soil and to bury

Prepare beds for planting during dar. On light soils, you can often get away autumn, winter and early spring, working with not digging at all.

been used as throughways, need more pear quickly. Leaves that contain resins. ground, you need to dig, to throw up clods attention. Digging improves drainage such as pine needles, or bave wary fin-. Heavy clay soils should be dug at the beginning of winter, light soils as late as possible in spring. Light soils do not need to be broken down by frost. The main problem bere is hanging on to water and nutrients. By leaving a light soil firm over winter, you belp it to hold water.

If you are making a new bed on light, sandy soil, you can kill off the weeds with a non-residual weedkiller, mulcb it heavily and then plant direct into the ground.

Mulches break down into burnus at differeot rates, depending on what they are Heavy ground, or places which have made of Leaves of ash and apple disap-

The rate of breakdown depends on the ratio of carbon to nitrogen in the living plant. Grass has a low carbon to nitrogeo ratio, about 5 to 1, and so breaks down fast in the soil. In pine needles, the ratio is about 100 to 1, so deterioration is much slower. In the autumn, a mature tree will provide at least 51b of leaf litter for each square yard of ground under it. That's nature's way of conditioning and feeding the soil. Match it if you can.







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are drooping, making it

also have to park the car

come for rejuvenation.

strategically. The time has

branches has allowed the

concentrating the growth towards the branch ends -

tree to extend upwards and

outwards (it is approximately 30ft wide by 20ft high),

hence the weight. There are

no small branches to prune

back to. If we prune the hranches back to the trunk,

we shall lose the shape we

encouraged. If we shorten

the branches and top the

unviable twigs or stumps?

full and healthy, but

leader by half, will we not be

faced with bundles of brittle.

"The tree canopy looks

inspectioo shows a good deal

of dead wood inside: twigs

that have died back, maybe

from lack of light. The tree's

habit, in fact, seems to be to

*Can we rejuvenate and

form oew growth at the

branch extremities, self-

pruning as it goes.

have so carefully

"Our pruning of under-

difficult to mow the lawn. We

while marking a curve of the reduce this tree by careful drive and steps to the house. pruning? If so, when and how?" "Now this mucb-loved tree is so wide that the branches

Mrs Beaufoy spells ont in her letter several alternative ways of dealing with ber cherry. I think that to barber it all round would be the worst option. Nothing of its graceful hahit would be retained, and such treatment will probably encourage bottle-brush growth which will never come to anything

worthwhile. If the tree were mine, and I felt I had to act, I would take a deep breath and take off a couple of the lowest branches entirely. This is drastic, but it would belp with the mowing and parking problems and reduce the spread of the tree. This, from what Mrs Beautoy says, seems to be causing more

difficulties than its beight. It seems to me that this is the only way to retain any of the tree's natural growth habit, though Mrs Beaufoy will lose the view of the lower branches that she mentions in her letter.

There is, of course, a risk that the tree, sensing free air and space below, may put

out some side hranches to fill

the gap.
The dead twigs are not unusual in prunus, which as a family are strongly inclined to grow from the tips of the branches. Pruning, though, should be looked on as very much a last resort. Cherries don't respond well to it. If pruning has to be done, it should be carried out in late

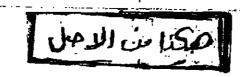
The Museum of Garden History is bolding an exhibition on the Lost Gardens of Heligan, in Cornwall.

These remarkable gardens were saved by the pop entrepreneur Tim Smit, who started work there in the spring of 1991 and has now restored 57 acres. The garden was originally laid

₹₁₅.

out by the Tremayne family. Tree ferns are among the rare and beautiful plants that flourish in the mild Cornisb climate, and there is also an impressive collection of Himalayan rhododendrons. The old walled kitchen garden bas bee boles for skeps built into its walls. All the greenhouses and frames have been restored and oow 300 different kinds of fruit and vegetables grow inside

the sbeltering walls. The Heligao exhibitioo opens tomorrow and runs until 29 November. At 7pm on 13 November, Tim Smit will be talking about the restoration of the garden. Admission to the exhibition is free. Tickets for the lecture cost £6. To book, call 0171-401 8864.



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1500 - THE PURPERVOENT

th Form, colour and harmony

Caroline Donald plans a winter garden

t this time of year, when you are surrounded by death and decay in the garden, a new level of sophistication is called for. me to concentrate oo structure, it being waylaid by colour, which is the surrounder months. For all the care and attention I have to bright on the two thirsty bydrangeas. It is time to concentrate oo structure, without being waylaid by colour, which is so easy to do in the summer months. However, if, like mine, your garden is the size of a peanut shell, you will probably find that, charming as evergreen shrubs now become, by default they teod to sit in gloomy lnmps for most of the year. They are like stern, sombre chaperooes, elbowing away attention (not to meotion room and light) from the more dainty flowering perennials. A pinky-white Viburnum inus, for example, had such a gay optimism to it when bought on a dull January day, but looked flat and drah for most of its flowerless year until it was settled in the space it deserved in a

I therefore try to keep these winter. shapers to a minimum and, instead, use plants that will give both decent summer flowers and, when their days are done, winter seedheads. These will add some architectural form and height to an otherwise sadly depleted border. To anyooe dedicated to the cause of thrift, this has the boous of making you feel as if you are getting two different plants for the price of one.

At the moment, the clematis 'Gipsy Queen' on my wall is struggling on with its last few dark velvety-purple flowers, but the bairy, greenish seedheads, like cheerleaders' mops, are cheering the branches of a rose that is fast divesting itself of its leaves. The most striking of the clematis seedheads are those of clematis seedheads are those of clematic tangentian a plant that it leaves. Clematis tangutica, a plant that in late summer bears small, lantern-like, huttercup-yellow flowers, which are

to lavish on the two thirsty hydrangeas I have growing in pots, I expect them to make up for it in winter, when the rather camp and showy mop-heads of summer should dry out gracefully into papery shadows of their former selves. The once-brilliant white petals of 'Madame Emile Mouillère' are now a delicate shade of soft pale green, edged with a blush of pink. Eventually they will turn brown but still hold their shape,

offering protection against frost and snow to the developing leaf tips within. Likewise, the leaves of the rampant climbing hydrangea, H petiolaris, are yellowing rapidly and beginning their annual descent, revealing the fine, reddish-brown bark and the skeletal lacecap flowerheads, as well as the odd, previously hidden, bird's nest.

In a new border is an Eryngium x tri-partitum, which is still settling in but doing its best to put on a brave show of spiky, thistle-like heads still touched with blue, while all around is in a state of collapse. The larger versions of the sea holly would be even more dramatic. with hlue, while all around is in a state of collapse. The larger versions of the sea holly would be even more dramatic, as would be spent Barcelona cathedral-like spires of acanthus and verbascum, were there room.

own about now, having been hiddeo for

seems to justify the space it takes up. The sedum is cheering up the border no end, with wide, flat heads of dark a well structured garden should give a

ocarby. As with the hydrangea, the stiff heads will bold a fine display long after

the sedum's fleshy leaves have died off. The biennial honesty bears white to deep purple, scented flowerheads in summer, before transforming into the Japanese-looking paper-mooo seed-pods once so beloved of dried-flower arrangers. But beware, it is prolifically

Another staple of the dried-flower arrangement is the seedpod of Papaver orientale, such a stark pepperpot to find inside such blowzy petals.

In an ideal garden one would have hip-bearing species and shruh roses, such as the purple Rosa rugosa, which, along with its sister R negosa 'Alba', produces cheerful, fat, red-and-orange hips. Rosa moyesii has blood-red flowers by no lesser glory in the form of large crimson flagoo-shaped hips." R moyesii 'Geranium' will produce even larger

hips.

Also in this ideal gardeo would be a pond, far eoough away from the house to merit a walk with the dogs. From a

A more realistic scale could be achieved with the 60cm-tall Typha min-The more modestly sized Sedum achieved with the 60cm-tall Typha min-spectabile Autumn Joy comes into its ima, a delicate marginal water-plant that could be planted near a clump of Iris foetidissima – unkindly called the stinking iris – whose cylindrical seed-pods open in winter to reveal rounded, scarlet fruits. Eveo oo the dullest November day,

then replaced by a mass of delightful, pink flowers that tone elegantly with a reminder of summer past, and a pre-fluffy balls of silver in winter. Grow this rather leggy pot-grown chrysanthemum monition of things to come. rather leggy pot-grown chrysanthemum . monition of things to come.



Glorious hips: Rosa moyesii 'Geranium'

PHOTOGRAPH: ANTIREW LAWSON

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tacular 3D environment, Kick Off '96 allows you to create your own dream team to challenge the very

Duff Hart-Davis Land that will grow four tons of wheat to the acre and give good grazing is too valuable to be flooded with sewage effluent

or 300 years Neville Waters's family has farmed in the parish of Nash, just outside Newport in Gwent. But now their livelihood, like that of other farmers round them, is threatened by a scheme so idiotic as to be scarcely credible. The aim is to flood 1,000 acres of land - most of it with sewage effluent, some with sea water - to create a bird reserve.

To Mr Waters, the proposal is both practical madness and personal insult. If it goes ahead, he will lose 150 of the 270 acres which he farms, and his dairy herd may well go uut of business. Apart frum the fact that the scheme will cost £6m or £7m to implement, it will take £500,000 a year to run, and reduce annual agricultural production by at least £1m. It may also prove fatal to the rare plants and insects for which the area has been designated a site of special

scientific interest. The trouble has its origins in Cardiff Bay, 15 miles to the south west, where the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation is attempting to revitalise the waterfront. This project is now well advanced, and a key feature is the construction of a barrage across the estuary of the Taff and Ely rivers. This will turn the hay into a freshwater lake, flooding 500 acres of tidal mudflats and thus depriving several thousand wading birds. principally dunlin and redshank, of their feeding grounds.

Having fought the scheme unsuccessfully, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and other conservation bodies demanded compensation, and extracted a promise from the Secretary of State for Wales that alternative bird accommodation would be found. The promise was hacked by the European Commission, which threatened prosecution if the Government did not to action. Now, with four other areas considered and rejected, the axe is poised above the Gwent Levels, a

coast south of Newport. Nobody claims that this area is beautiful. Its western end is dominated by a vast power station, now closed down; inland, industrial development has sprawled out in a hideous barrier between the coastal plain and the hills. Nevertheless, the Levels are fascinating. for every acre bears evidence of man's 2,000-year struggle to control the ubiquituus water. Within a high sea-wall the flat fields are bounded by

strip of farmland along the



a network of reens (major watercourses) and lesser ditches. The oldest fields have shallow open channels, known as grips, running at right angles to the main ridge-and-furrow drainage system. Out of sight below ground are more modern drains filled with pipes and

The developers claim that the soil is very poor, and should be graded 3B. Local farmers retort that 80 per cent of the land in Wales is graded 4 or 5, and is rock or bog: the Levels are thus in the top 20 per cent by any reckoning. Land which will grow four tons of wheat to an acre and produce excellent grazing is far too valuable (they say) to be flooded with sewage effluent.

That is the imminent fate of the area known as saltmarsh. All drains will be hlocked. Fields will be surrounded by bunds, or banks, of earth. Houses within the reserve will be ringed by individual bunds, with effluent lapping outside them from October to May.

Close to the derelict power station, ash has settled over the years to a depth of 12ft or 14ft in huge ponds specially built to contain it. These deposits contain boron, arsenic and other noxious materials, yet now some of them are to be excavated to a depth of 3ft so that they too can be flooded with sewage, in the hope of establishing a colony of - wait for it - bitterns.

There is clearly some risk that poisonous substances will contaminate the sewage effluent. Even advocates of the scheme admit that the habitat of the new reserve will be different from that of Cardiff Bay, and will not attract the displaced species.

Until last week, the Newport Planning Committee had been proposing to make a recommendation to the local council without even looking at the site. Then, at the last minute, they agreed to hold a site inspection. So the protest group has won a temporary reprieve.

No wonder the farmers are euraged by the thought that the labour of generations will be brought their land by compulsory purchase, and that several small family husinesses will go under.

What annoys them most is that decisions are being taken by distant quangos whose members are totally ignorant of the area.

The Government keeps talking about freedom of choice," said Mr Waters. "and yet we have none. Instead, we have to listen to a lot of twaddle from people who dun't know the first thing about our environment, our heritage uur businesses, our traditions and frum people who don't



Catch the view of Painswick while you can

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN LAWRENCE

A belt-and-braces foray

On foot: the Slad Valley, near Stroud. By Duff Hart-Davis

here is only one thing better than walk-ing to a pub - and that is walking from a pub as well. When I set out from The Woolpack, in the Slad valley near Stroud, aiming for the Black Horse at Cranham, high in the wooded hills to the north, I deliberately made it a belt-and-braces foray: if my strength gave out at the Black Horse, I could settle down and seek a lift back to my car, if all went well, I could complete a circle

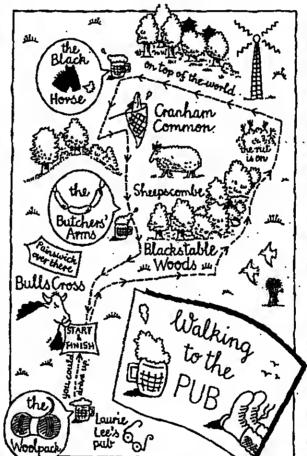
and return to The Woolpack.
Slad is celebrated as the bome of Laurie Lee: here he was born, bere be wrote Cider with Rosie, and from this deep, wide valley he walked out one midsummer morning to conquer the world. The Woolpack is still his local, and he is to be found there most days.

Of more consequence to the walker are the puh's excellent food and beer, not least splendid ales from Uley Brewery, just over the hill. The latest of these, Severn Boar, is a knockout, and at 6 per cent alcohol a worthy successor to the notorious stupefacient Pigor Mortis: as somebody remarked, a coupints of Boar, and you will prob find yourself doing a circular walk, willy-

You can leave a car outside the pub and walk from there. A better alternative, though, is to drive a mile uphill to Bull's Cross, a small intersection, and park in the lay-by. Then you have only a few yards of tarmac hefore a footpath dives off to the left through scrub and grassland.

Catch the view while you can. Far out across the valley to the left, the slender spire of Painswick church rises gracefully from a cluster of grey houses. Then you are into the woods proper - Blackstable Wood, to be precise - and very fine it is: slender, well-thinned beech trunks rising like the columns of a

From the wood, the track climbs righthanded across the slope: take any right fork which offers itself, to gain height. At the top the path runs level until it reaches a gate at



the end. There, bear right, up on to the metalled road, but at the next little crossroads take the left-hand lane, towards Sbeepscombe - though only for 100 yards or so. Then turn right into the trees, through a patch of nettles, on to an unsigned path which follows the contour, in and out, for more than a mile along

 From Bull's Cross walk uphill 50 yards, then turn left at footpath sign. Cross two stiles, and proceed into wood. Keep to the right across slope, taking any possible-right fork. At end of wood bear right on to Tarmac road. At next crossroads turn left, then almost Immediately right into trees on unsigned path. Follow path through top of wood, keeping as high as possible. At end, take right turn up bridleway to minor road. Then fork left at

Rejoin lane sign to Cranham. From Black Horse take path over Cranham Common.

footpath sign across field. .

fishing lake. Go through gate into wood and make a steep climb, along track beside stone wall. Then walk down, over

rough grass, into Sheepscombe. ·Back on the Tarmac road follow signposts for Stroud, then either bear left at footpath sign into wood, or follow lane, back to Bull's Cross.

the top edge of Elder Hill, Beech Wood and Piper's Wood.

Slots in a muddy patch remind you that this is fallow deer country, and that the rut is on. Probably the deer are watching you go by from

At the end of the wood, the path debouches on Sundays, 12pm-3pm on other days,

the safety of some thicket.

on to a hridleway which runs right-handed up to Ebworth Farm. After a couple of hundred yards on the road, fork left across a big, flat field, fizzing with larks. Head for the radio mast at Overtown Farm, and thence straight along the lane to Cranham.

Up there, the walker feels as if be is on top of the world, with the brasby stone of the Cotswold plateau showing through the soil; yet still more woods roll and tumble on the horistic than the control of the world and the soil of the woods roll and tumble on the horistic than the woods roll and the world the woods roll and the world the woods roll and the woods roll and the world the woods roll and the woods roll and the world the world the woods roll and the world the woods roll and the world the wo zon, and at this time of the year the sight of autumn reds and golds blazing on the buge, forested bank behind Cranham is one to make you stand and stare.

At the Black Horse, a small and friendly puh, you may well succumb to the beer and the haggis with bacon or the fisherman's pie. If you feel fit to carry on, strike out straight past the car park, up the track on to Cranham Common, over, down, left and right round a fishing lake, up through Saltridge Wood and steeply down to the hamlet of Sheepscombe, where, as if by magic, you come to earth right beside the Butcher's

Fortified yet again, you plunge down and up again through the village, following signposts for Stroud. Thereafter you can either bear left on a footpath, back up into Blackstable Wood, and follow the track along the bottom edge, or keep to the lane, which leads back to Bull's

Cross. The distances are about five miles out and three-and-a-half back - but be warned: the route is far from flat, and it will take at least three hours, besides creating a very consider-

Maps: sheets 1089 and 1113 of the Ordnance Survey Pathfinder series, two-and-a-half inches

· Pubs: The Woolpack in Slad (01452 813429) isopen from 11am to 3pm on Saturdays, other days 12pm to 3pm. The Black Horse in Cran-ham (01452 812217) opens from 12pm to 2pm

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Dark, damp and dangerous

Fighting claustrophobia, Jonathan Green explores the world of the caver

wo bundred feet below the earth's surface, Ian Jeffries lay immobile under the icy blast of an underground waterfall. The compound fracture of his leg was becoming infected. Hypothermia was turning his skin the colour of porcelain. On a disastrous three-man caving party in Slaughter Stream Cave in the

Forest of Dean, he bad plunged 15 feet off a ledge to land under the cascade. A colleague had also fallen, and lay in a crumpled heap nearby. The third man had gone for help but had got lost in the pitch-black labyrinth of tunnels, and returned having been unable to find his way out. "I thought the hypothermia was going to kill me." recalls Ian. Grimly, they all waited.

Specialised belp was already massing its ranks. When the trio failed to meet friends at a pub, the alarm was raised and Gloucestershire Cave Rescue Group scrambled into action. Around 40 volunteers, all experienced cavers, arrived at the cave entrance in the early hours of the morning. Ropes, ladders and a human network were set up. Rescuers were equipped with neoprene exposure bags to swaddle casualties in, and "little dragons" specially beated oxygen to infuse warmth into the body.



Trainee cave rescuers in Wales

anisations are called to 60 such incidents each year. Rescuers battle their way in darkness, often without radio contact, through cave systems that can run to 30 miles. But they don't rescue only cavers. Often they recover animais that bave fallen down shafts (one team boasted the rescue of a duck last year), and have helped the police to recover hidden murder weapons.

At a conference of cave rescue teams, hosted by the South Wales The UK's 16 cave rescue org- Cave Rescue Organisation last month,

I joined hardened cavers as they practised new techniques - from containing hypothermia to using explosives in rescue. Deep underground, cave divers mounted an exercise using a stretcher specially designed for immersion in submerged tunnels. Pete Allwright is secretary of both

the British Cave Rescue Council and the country's busiest team, the Cave Rescue Organisation in the Yorkshire Dales, which responds to 25 per cenr of all call-outs in the UK. "Underground, you can forget all about ambulance call-out times," he explains. "Unlike Mountain Rescue. who can sometimes just fly people out with a belicopter, we have to retrace the casualties' steps to take them out. The operation can take many bours."

Sergeant Chris Pappin, based at Ingleton, North Yorkshire, is the liaison officer between the police and the Cave Rescue Organisation (CRO), to which all 999 calls for emergencies in caves are referred. "On paper, the police have overall control of an operation, but in practice it is all down to the CRO," he says. "We really just provide a supportive role for them."

As volunteers know to their cost, rescue work carries an emotional price. In August this year Christine Bleakley: a 24-year-old student, fell to

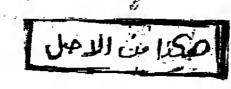
ber death negotiating the Quaking Pot at nearby Ingleborough. It is listed as a grade 5 not and the control of a grade 5 pot, and the most danger-ous in Britain. "The name really does make rescuers quake in their boots," says Pete Allwright.

Yet, thanks to rescue organisations, fatalities are relatively few. "If someone dies it affects you badly, especially if you are on the rescue team," says Constable Andy Watson, who was involved in the operation to try to save Christine. "Cavers are a close community, and her death was felt by everyone."

Yet accidents tend not to deter cavers. Certainly Ian Jeffries' fall hasn't dampened his enthusiasm. He'li he back down again as soon as his leg is mended.

Deep in the bowels of the Ogof Ffynnon Ddu black limestone caves in Wales, a glimmer of light pierces the darkness. Within seconds a team of muddy rescuers appears, rapidly hauling a stretcher up an underground stream. There is no real casualty, just a volunteer tied to the frame for the purposes of training. It is dank, chilly and a long way to the surface.

Why do people go caving? "You can he the first to find a passage nobody has been in before," explains a mudbespattered caver. "It is the challenge of the unknown." And he beams.



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How to pecome a sleek mover

Rosalind Russell continues her series on finding a new home

day of the mooth - unless it's a Friday, in which case February would do. a deposit of a couple of hundred pounds If this sounds like a silly conundrum, work out how much money it may save and it woo't seem so ridiculous.

Many removal companies work to a "domestic removals seasooal planner", which really means they charge more to move you at a time you find convenient. For instance, during school holidays, oo a Friday (wheo you could have the weekend to unpack before returning to work) or when the weather is sunny and your beloogings won't get sodden between van and house. The difference could be as much as 20 per cent of the removal cost. Some lenders give a spiteful twist to the

equation by charging a redemption fee on your mortgage to the end of the month. Move in the middle of the month, and you've lost two weeks' redemption money.

It is, of course, impossible to predict exactly when your property will sell - and your buyer may be less enthusiastic about a winter move than you are - but solicitors can be chivvied to avoid landing you with a Friday completion.

within a 10-mile radius, according to the National Association of Estate Agents the cost cao easily run into several thousand pounds. Solicitors dealing with "virgin" buyers find it easy to prolong the proce-

he cheapest day to move house is dure - and hike up their fee - by sending a cold, hlustery Tuesday in Janu- frivolous letters asking the vendors if they ary. Preferably, make it the last intend to leave the dustbins behind. Cheeky estate agents sometimes demand from the buyer, over and above the deposit lodged with a solicitor, "to show serious inteot".

By the time you have paid an agent up to 3 per cent to sell your home, and handed over Stamp Duty of 1 per cent on the purchase price (above £60,000), money seems to be haemorrhaging faster than in a scene from Cardiac Arrest.

The Halifax will run off a quick quotation for customers, showing what likely costs will be on a given mortgage figure (for illustrative purposes only, a firm offer depends on a detailed interview). A £100,000 repayment mortgage over 25 years, for instance, will attract a conveyancer's mortgage charge, a bit of flamel which translates as more cash for solicitors for dealing with the deeds (£148.05); mortgage indemnity if more than 80 per cent of the purchase price is borrowed (£259.40); initial interest (£305.57); and the survey and valuation fee, often around £400.

... Having change of address cards printed ith a Friday completion.

usually costs about £40 and asking the Although 90 per cent of moves are

Royal Mail to redirect the post for three

a member of the British Association of which can be sold to raise funds. months will relieve you of another £13. Removers (BAR), and even more imporcing conduction changing schools? New school tant if you are shipping goods overseas.

Some firms, such as East Anglia-hased firms cut costs by swapping crews half- and general drama-solving. Or you conducted the interior way through a job, especially if the move forget the whole idea and stay where you of another £13. uniforms to buy. New carpets, oew cur- Shark shippers will take your beiongines, tains... By the time you think about take your moocy and then go bust, leavbooking a removal company, the instinct ing your container bobbing about in Until recently they owned a team of ture if the team that wrapped isn't the 28 February. tains... By the time you think about take your moocy and then go bust, leav-



You would be lucky to spend less than £600 for moving the contents of a two-bedroom flat

A DIY removal should be considered only if you have hardly any possessions, are totally broke and have a hefty friend with free use of a van. Cheap deals with removal companies can be oegotiated if the customer packs, but then the removal firm woo't cover breakages. Giveo that a recent Which? report revealed that in 25 per ceot of all household moves something is lost, stolen or damaged, it's

is to keep a firm grip on what money you some foreign port - or, worse, running up have left. dock charges.

Removal costs will depend on the cubic

capacity of your household goods (including the contents of the shed and garage); whether you have difficult items such as antiques or pianos, which may involve a sub contractor; and ease of access. If you have unwanted china, glass, pictures and clothes, prepare to shed them now: Oxfam, in partnership with BAR, will supply you with Oxboxx cartons and sacks to vibration, fill with items out wanted on the yourse with items oot wanted on the voyage.

designer Nina Campbell - can provide is ontside the footprint of a particular are.

heavy horses which pulled a Victorian pan-technicon and appeared at country shows.
"The horses also worked," says Abels'
Andrew Hoyle. "One customer had

moved into his house 60 years ago, using

our horse-drawn pantechnicoo. Wheo he moved out he used it again." These days, says Mr Hoyle, you should be asking your removal firm whether their vehicles have air-ride suspension. which reduces the risk of damage due to

"Ask if the same team will work oo your move from start to finish. Some stranded and can't move in as plann

same one doing the unwrapping. Che they are not casual part-time staff, a that they carry identity.

No removal firms will be quoted on average house move price, but you wor be lucky to pay less than £600 on the cu tents of a two-bedroom flat, moving miles. If the firm is a BAR member. to negotiate free cover under the Carel scheme as part of the quote. It provide assistance if your car breaks down on t way to your new house, help in a dom tic emergency, accommodation if you: Some firms, such as East Anglia-hased firms cut costs by swapping crews half- and general drama-solving. Or you

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Wesley: Sidet chelet, bilaw, 2 beds, beth, wc, ingo, conset, kit gains, grgs, \$49,950, Ref: 9045

ESSEX

• Rochioust 14 & Ret, 1 bed, beth, ingu, kil + comm gins, £30.998, Ret 9079

ESSEX

• Chector: Det briow, 3 beda, 2 beth (198), 2 mc, conser, kit; grins, grge; Přez poss, £140.000, Ret

o Freuchie: Grad & flat, 1 bed, aber m, inga, labdar plang, 231,000, Ref: 9082 GLOUCESTERSHIRE

GWYNEDD Preshess: Sidet blow, 3 beds, butt, logs, kit, consert; gdns, grgs, carport, £36,590, Ref: 9074
 HERTFORDSHIRE

Shantdar Det hotel, 23 beds, 4 res, 19 els shars, 3 bets, etc., (E.1.B. 3 crown rating), £340,000, Ref. 9072

e Kings Mortic Det hee, 4 bads, buth, ets stree, inge, tell, wc, leit gaine, gage, 259,950, Flat: 9069 Hingetherne: Skier hee, 3 back, bath, 2 rec. let; gains, grge, 237,000, Rait 9032 LINCOLNSHIPE LINCOLNSHIPE . Willowgriber: Det bilow, 3 beds, bath, lage, sall, ld; gare, grge, 5790,950, Ref: 9038 LENCOLINSHIFE

HONDON LONDON MERSEYSIDE Bidstor: 1st fr fat, 3 beds, beth, legs, ldt; comminger, phry, per, 9068
 MID GLAMORGAN

 Aberturatol: Ter bas, 2 beds, bath, lego, bi grass, phing, £26,000, Ref; 9023
 MID GLAMORAN MIDDLESEX MODLESEX e Walnak, Yer hee, 3 book, bath, 2 rec, kil, sec; yard, grge, 243,650, Feb; 9047 NORFOLK ADDI ANDS (WEST).

NORFOLK

 Bacton: Stiet sugge abovey cod, 3 beds, bath, 2 rec, conser, kt; gdns, plong, £45,000, Ref. 908?
 NORTHUMBERLAND O Crantington: Det bye, 4 backs, buth, 2,rec, util, but; orbos, cress, £110,000, Rath 8055 Krisby in Ashfield: Dut has, 4 bad, els shac, bath, 2 rec, let, conser; gdns, grgs, 578,000, Red: 9000

 Centor: Det blow, 2 bed, buth, Ingeltin, cooses, kt; gins, grgs; P.Ex poss, 209,950, Ref: 9058 SOMERISET © Astrictor: Spirit level dat free, 4 beds, bells, 3 rsc, cliff, vc, fct; gdts, grgs, \$114,590, Ret 9058 SOMERISET SOUTH YORKSHIRE

 Occuping Dat box, 4 both, both, ingo, util, wc, kt;
gdns, grgs, 512,965, Fed: 8069
 SOUTH YORKSHIRE Auckley: Stdet has, 5 hade, built, loge, corese, libiting gare, carport, \$52,000, Ref; \$078 on flat blow 4 back, shor m. els bath.

2 rac, cun inge, idt; 34 aure gdns, gage, £177,500. SUFFOLK . . Laverham: Det has, 4 beds, 2 beth, study, 4 rsc. uff, kir, gdrs, grgs, \$56,000, Ref. 9060 O Harley: Sitter ham, 4 backs, buth, large, study, sur-

ingeloid, wc, kit gare, eyx 1 acre, swip pool, general ma, \$225,000, Rait 9045 The Special Furnisms: (at 0 traiscents, 1 bed, batt ingettrs, let; gons, plong, 255,000, Rait 9051

 Actilestone: EUT inte, 1 bed, beth, lings, kit + plang. \$56,350, Ref: 8061 e Schicen Brighton: Det bilow, 3 beds, buth, 2 rec, belief Mr. society galle, page, \$25,856, Rec. 9003 O Cleation Village: Stigt has, 3 back, bath, wc, Iron. id. lit. gdra. grps. £58,950, Fat: 9044 Whiteend: 1st in that studio on, short on, let + come

WEST YORKSHIP © Continional: State how, 3 heets, bello, 2 rec., bit, gains, plang, 558,500, Fiel: 9050 WEST YORKSHIP Langueout Start has, 2 bacs, bach, lage, lakeln;
gars, 979, 545,000, Ref: 9073
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Shopping for a chalet

By Mary Wilson

o own a home on the side of a ski slope, with only a few metres of crisp snow between your froot door and the ski lift, must be the dream of many a passionate skier. Skiing is, of course, an expensive sport, but if you buy a chalet or apartment in a good location you can cover your costs by letting it out when you are oot there.

When deciding to go shopping for a chalet, con-sideration should be given to international access, how easy it is to get to the centre of the resort, the ski lifts, and the variety of skiing for all members of the family.

"In most cases, this decision is based on past holidays," says Paddy Dring of Knight Frank. "The skiing property market bas remained slow during the past two years, but the strong French and Swiss francs have pushed prices downwards, which in turn has led to an increase in the number of people now considering buying a skiing property.

It is relatively easy, if you bave the wherewithal, to huy a ski property in many parts of Europe; Frace and Andorra especially spring to mind. But buying in Switzerland can be difficult. The Swiss government restricts foreign ownership in several cantons and although allocations are made each year for a number of newly built properties to be sold to foreigners, you sometimes have to put your name down on a waiting list.

"In those cantons where it is possible for foreigners to purchase, you may only resell to another foreigner after 10 years of ownership - sometimes five years, in cases of ill health or financial distress," says Simon Malster, of Investors in Property. "To the canton of Vaud, in which Montreux and Villars are, it is proposed that these restrictions will be reduced to five and three years respectively. The vote will take place mid-November.'

Simon Malster is selling a one-bedroom apartment in a very pretty chalet, Chalet l'Orée du Bois, in Barboleuse, near Villars, This is within a 15mioute walk of the telecabine that gives access to all the pistes of Villars and Les Diablerets. The apartment is carpeted, has a fully fitted kitchen, and is priced at 195,000 SFr, about £97,500.

Arlette Adler, of Villas Abroad, is selling a semi-

detached chalet at Les Diablerets, which has a large lounge, three bedrooms, separate studio/ granny flat and garden, for 430,000 Sfr (£215,000). Les Diablerets is a very good ski resort, only half ao bour from Lake Geneva," she says, "Switzerland is no longer the most expensive place to ski 824 8822); CISA (00376 835 228).

as it bas recently brought its rates down by at least 10 per cent, and it is now much better value, especially for family skiing. Meanwhile France has become expensive, as well as the exchange rate

being bad for British visitors."

In France, Val d'Isère and Méribel remain popular, Here properties sell for between 3m and 4m FF (£400,000 and £540,000). At Trois Vallées prices have dropped a little, and there are pleoty of resales and some bargains to be had. Here, and in the Portes du Soleil ski area, you would be looking at prices mostly over 2m FF (£270,000).

At the top end of the market in Méribel, an

eight-bedroom, seveo-bathroom chalet which belonged to the late Sir Peter Scott is for sale. This has been on the market for a couple of years, but has recently seen a considerable price reduction, and Knight Frank and Hamptons are now offer-

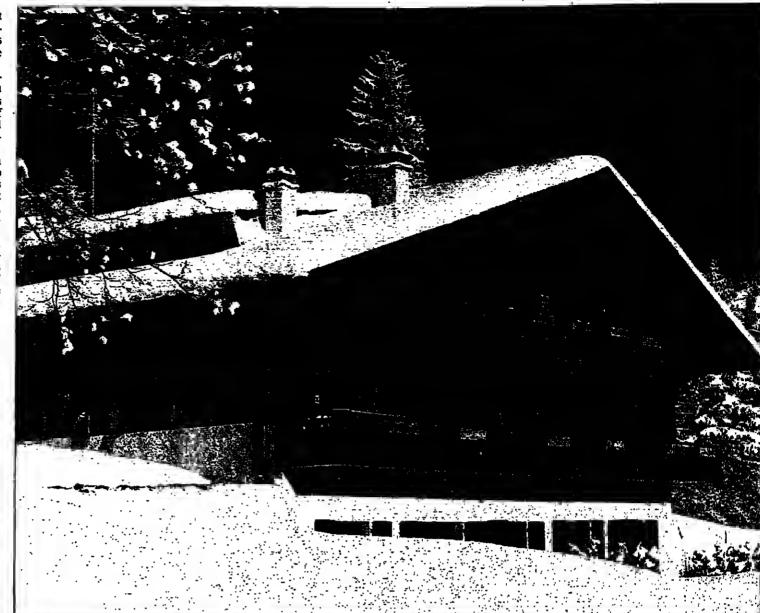
For those without this sort of cash, a very much cheaper option would be to buy a newly built apartment at Oz-en-Oisans, a new resort 45 minutes from Grenoble. It is due to be expanded in 1997 if the new mayor agrees to a hotel being built. Here two- and three-storey chalets have been built oo the slopes on the Grandes Rousses. Prices range from around £40,000 for a one-bedroom apartment to £110,000 for a four-bedroom flat.

"It is just as good a resort in the summer as the winter," says Charles Eyston, who is marketing the properties. "People still don't think of the Alps as a place to go in the summer, but there is plenty to do - from white-water rafting to mountain biking."

Meanwhile, in Andorra, the top resorts of Arinsal, Ordina La Massana and Soldeu (the star resort with the biggest ski terrain), business is good. Resales start at around £42,000 for a one-bedroom apartment with a garage, while a small house with a garden and a chalet will sell for about £125,000

CISA, an established construction company in Andorra, builds apartments and houses and also offers a management and letting service for those wanting to rent out their ski homes. One of their tiny studio flats, 10 minutes from Soldeu, costs around £22,000, a two-bedroom flat sells for from £65,000 and a large house will cost around £265,000.

Investors in Property (0181-905 5511); Villas Abroad (0181-941 4499); Oz-en-Oisans (0181-394 1114); Knight Frank (0171-629 8171); Hamptons (0171-



A piste on the doorstep: Chalet L'Oree du Bois near Villars. A small apartment here is on the market for around £97,000

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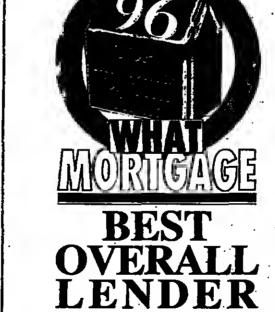
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Great

My biggest mistake

BJ Cunningham of 'Death' cigarettes

for the man in the steaming screaming for his mother ... So ended the last press release I sent out, as my first with pedal to the metal, headed for oblivion. The Karma Connection

was my first foray into busigraduate degree in threeclass). It was a relatively simple business, trading the price and quality differentials between the UK and Califormia in classic sports cars and Harley Davidson motorcycles - both great passions

The idea was to connect UK customers with the rustfree car of their dreams, at the right price. In short, to inject positive karma into the classic car trade. At the time in the Eighties,

6 of you are interested in this clearthe sterling/dollar exchange oblivious to any macro-ecolife.

The bubble had burst. The ested in this clear-ance stock call The rate was favourable and you Karma Connection and ask simply couldn't go wrong. I spent half the year in Calibath with the razor blade formiz and the desert belt, purchasiog bikes and cars, riding them across the twolane blacktops of America en entrepreneurial venture, route to the coast and the cootainer ports. The other half of the year was spent selling them in the UK.

In most cases the cars were ness, fresh out of a post- sold before they were even seeo in the UK and almost dimensional design (pottery without exception, for a twoyear period, I doubled my money on every vebicle. Luxury.

I was young and I believed in it. This was the very late Eighties and all was still fantastically well. My initial investment in one Karman Ghia eventually translated into a fleet of exotic cars and beautiful bikes.

The idea of consolidating profits or 'risk management' seemed ridiculous. This was a gravy train and I thought I

nomic factors, every little deal I turned seemed absolutely separate from the wider economic cycle. As far as I was concerned this could never end.

What I absolutely and resolutely failed to understand was that the whole market for my vehicles was a 'bubble'. My customers were buying not for their personal usc but to sell on at a greater profit.

Karma, indeed, I was a tiny link in a huge chain but couldn't see past my own steering wheel. The hank loved me, my girlfriend loved me, the world was my

When it went wrong it went horribly wrong. I had £750,000 worth of cars and bikes in containers coming down the Panama Canal and life was a breeze. Then a Ferrari failed to reach its reserve at auction in London. This (in my world) tiny hiccup cat-

The bubble had burst. The whole market went into a nose-dive and I was quite lilerally up a creek without a paddle. I watched helplessly as the market collapsed, taking me with it.

My stock, my beautiful stock, was falling out of bed at a rate of tens of thousands of pounds per week and I took it all extremely personally. I believed someone. everyone, was out to stuff me. My old pals at the bank forgiving with such a messy seemed to turn in an instant

into demons. My relationship with my girlfriend went down the toilet, as did the previously simple and straightforward relationship the rose-tinted glasses and with my business partner. Everything turned into a Too bad you're gonna die.

nightmare, bad karma. My mistake was the old BJ Cunningham is chairman reggs in one basket classic, and founder of the Enlight coupled with tunnel vision and zero true market perspective. My eggs cooked up into one nasty omelette and

to a Japanese guy whom I chanced upon. He saved me thousands but I hated him for it. I was left for dead another festering road kill of the Eighties. Drowning my sortows in

LA led to Death cigarettes. What goes around comes around, Death seemed like the right move. It took me four years to climb out of the debt with my bank, who were in some respects incredibly and naive young pup

I learnt that while you must believe the unbelievable to make the impossible possible, you must also remove never believe your own hype.

ened Tobacco Company (ETC), which makes Death

Time it right and strike it rich

Photograph: Lorenzo Agius

Alison Eadie explores commodity funds

raditional wisdom states that commodity markets are not for widows and orphans and should be left to deep-pocketed investors with nerves of steel. Why, then, should ordinary investors consider putting money into natural resources funds which invest in the companies pro-

ducing the commodities? The answer, according to Mark Lawson-Statham, who manages Fleming Natural Resources investment trust and Save & Prosper's Energy

managed companies that can keep volumes rising and costs under control. If volumes double or treble each year. the commodity price can. halve." He points out that the correlation hetween share and commodity prices is anyway limited, except in the case of gold.

modity prices are notoriously cyclical, cyclicality is now imposed on an upward slop-ing line due to rising demand from developing nations. Demand for commodities traditionally falls when recession hits the developed world, but it rose during the last recession in OECD countries, due to the healthy appetite of the fast-growing economies of China, India and elsewhere. With populations and living standards rising fast in Asia. massive growth in demand for oil and other natural resources is expected.

centres on the state of commodity prices, which have given little scope for longterm growth whatever the underlying demand.

Brian O'Neill, whose responsibilities include Gartmore's Gold and International Resources unit trust, says: "We look on commodities as a cyclical phenomenon and have only recommended our fund seriously to investors once in the last 10 years."

worked. Firstly by buying out that the index of comequities investors are tapping modity prices compiled by companies. Mr. Hutchins cially from Asia, gold is not into the process and not just—the Commodities. Research the commodity price.

Burean stood at 218 in 1973

We are looking for well—and at 245 in mid-Outstand. The way to That was in 1987 when and at 245 m mid-October, a rise of 12 per cent in 23 years.

also crucial. Mercury launched its World Mining investment trust in December economic recovery among developed nations would fuel demand for metals and minerals. Destocking and other The second argument in difficulties like the Sumitomo favour is that, although com- copper scandal have, bowever, kept prices subdued. The trust's asset value at the end of September was up 16.6 per cent since incention. substantially underperform-ing the UK stock market. The trust's shares are still

trading below launch price. Everyone agrees commodity prices are impossibly hard to predict. The recent bounce in the oil price was not expected, but it has worked wonders for energy funds. If the experts cannot forecast with accuracy, what bope for the lay investor?

David Hutchins, manager 7.1 per cent.

The counter-argument of M&G's Commodity and General and Gold and General unit trusts, says the sector has been much maligned hecause private investors have piled in at the top of the cycle and not necessarily picked quality vehicles.

He argues there is a case for a broadly based commodity fund in a diversified portfolio, but accepts it has to be monitored carefully. It cannot be bought and locked away like a low risk UK equity income or tracker fund.

invest in a collective vehicle In the short term timing is with a mix of blue chip and speculative or even unquoted

The performance of com-1993 in the expectation that modity funds over the years varies not just with economic cycles, but according to the manager. Micropal shows that over the past five years to the beginning of October the best performing unit trust was Mercury Gold and General, up 313.8 per cent, and the worst Allied Dunbar Metals, Minerals and Commodities, up 42.2 per cent. In the same period the gold price rose 20 per cent and the oil price 21 per cent.

Since launch in 1976 to half-year results in August, M&G's Commodity and General Fund grew by an average annual compound rate of 11.6 per cent, or 13.8 per cent, with net income reinvested, compared with inflation at an average annual

The best way to secure long-term gains, suggests Mr Hutchins, is via a regular savings plan which ensures that fewer units are bought at times of boom and more at times of bust.

Single commodity funds are much more risky than broadly based ones, and gold dances to a different tunefrom the rest. Its use as a safe baven in times of war bas diminished with the ending of foreign exchange controls and the rise of financial futures.

trial use. If it is difficult to get commodity prices right, experts agree it is impossible

to forecast gold accurately.
That said, several fund managers believe now is a good time to look at commodity funds. The opening up of hitherto closed parts of the world, including countries in the former USSR, means there are more accessible and plentiful reserves. Exploratory risk has been swapped for political risk, which is more quantifiable from a portfolio viewpoint, says Mr Lawson-Statham.

Metal stockpiles are getting low, the world's hig economies are growing and the renewed risk of trouble in the Middle East could trigger a sudden leap in prices. Stock market sentiment is still bearish and both Mercury's and Fleming's investment trusts are trading at substantial discounts to net asset value. But the outlook is improving.

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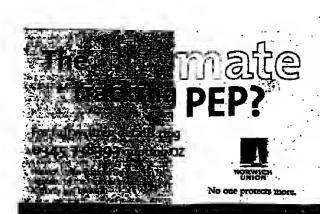
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Uncle's good for a loan

Pawnbroking is enjoying a revival in popularity, says lan Hunter

ainsbury's may be about to become one of the newest lenders, but spare a thought for Uncle who, despite his age and old-fashioned image, is still lending money. In fact, according to the National Pawnbrokers Association, the pawnbroking

business is enjoying a steady revival.

The NPA says: "Pawnbroking has successfully shaken off its Dickensian image. The recent upsurge in the industry's fortunes came during the 1980s credit boom and has continued into the 1990s with customers preferring this convenient form of high-street borrowing - customers that banks and building societies turned their backs on during the squeeze.'

Contrary to popular belief, pawnbroking is regulated like any other form of credit. The Office of Fair Trading is responsible for granting licences to pawnbrokers. Pawnbrokers' operations are governed by the Consumer Credit Act 1974. It is an offence for a pawnbroker to accept goods from a minor.

John Quigg is a pawnbroker with the north London-based Pledge Company. The company offers loans of varying duration at different rates of interest.

He explains: "We would normally offer a monthly loan of up to £100 secured against a TV or video. Interest is charged at a rate of 10 per cent per week."

Six-monthly loans can be secured at more competitive rates on items such as musical instruments and jewellery. The company will also raise loans against property or share cer-tificates. Recently, Mr Quigg explains, £20,000 was lent to a customer in return for his BMW car as security. The customer was given the option to renew the loan for a further six months at the end of the term.

Borrowing from pawnbrokers can be expensive by conventional standards. Even credit card rates may look cheap by comparison. However, as pawnbrokers are quick to point out, credit can be provided immediately, without the need for any credit checks. When small sums are involved, it can even be more cost-effective to use a pawnbroker than to cash a cbeque.

The pawnbroker requires proof of ownersbip before entering into a loan agreement. When an item is pawned, the customer should receive a receipt and a credit agreement. If you lose the receipt, you should inform the pawn-broker to prevent someone else redeeming the

At the end of the loan period, the borrower will receive a notice explaining that the loan and outstanding interest are now payable. If the loan and the interest are paid, the goods are returned to the borrower. The customer may, however, bave the option to



Sign of the times: The upsurge in pawnbroking's fortunes started during the 1980s credit boom

If the borrower does not respond to the to auction to avoid the accusation that they notice served, the pawnbroker can take steps have failed to obtain the best possible price. to dispose of the goods. The pawnbroker is Meanwhile the customer remains under an obliged to give the customer notice of his obligation to pay interest up until the time the intention to sell the goods, however, and at that stage the customer's only possible option if he wishes to prevent a sale is to apply to the county court for more time to pay the debt.

Contrary to myth, the pawnbroker cannot imply hold on to the goods, regardless of their value, if the customer does not repay the loan. The pawnbroker, when be decides to sell the goods, is under an obligation to obtain the best price possible. Any surplus, once the loan and accrued interest have been paid, should be returned to the customer.

Many pawnbrokers routinely send the goods.

goods are sold.

Mr Quigg says: "Sometimes the pawnbroker loses out in these situations, as the market value of the goods does not always equal the value of the loan and accrued interest. ment which can, because of constant innova-

tions, lose its value rapidly. Pawnbrokers are not liable if goods are. destroyed or stolen, provided they have taken duced by the Office of Fair Trading. reasonable care of them.

Mr Quigg says: "All of our valuables are The National Pawnbrokers' Association: 0171securely stored in vaults." The NPA states that . 242-1114

it "safeguards customers' and members' interests with its Customer Protection Plan and Agreed Extra Value insurance schemes for

pledged goods".
The NPA sees a bright future for its members. It says: "Pawnbrokers are now moving swiftly and very comfortably alongside high street lending institutions and are providing a service very similar to that offered by banks This is particularly true of computer equip- and building societies but one with which they cannot compete for speed and convenience."

The leaflet "Using a Pawnbroker - Just Another Way of Borrowing Money" is pro-

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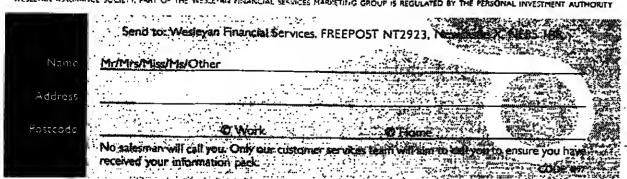
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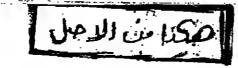
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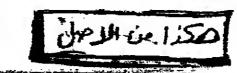
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B., J., J.	1	What's on offer o	on the flexible	mortgage from	t	
Product name	Variable rate %	Overpayment	Monthly under- payment	Lump-sum withdrawa!	Payment holiday per year	Additional notes
Abbey National Flexi-break	7.04	No	·No	No ·	After 9 mits, up to 8 int	
Bank of Scotland via local branch Mortgage Direct Centrebank Personal Choice	6.99	Monthly: If lump sum, min £500		Min £500. Max 12 cheques pa	fee payments in 1st 5 ys Yes	Bank of Scotland fee £250. Others no fee
Clydesdale Bank Flexible Repayment Mtg	6.49/6.99 and fixed rates	Yes	No	No	No	Rate 6.49% if bank's buildings and contents inurance arranged
First National BS (NI) Mortgage Trust Early Payment Plus	Any variable product	Yes	Yes within available reserve	£50 within available reserve	Yes	Available on self-certification, max 75%
Homeloans Direct Flexible Repayment Mtg	6.45	Monthly. If lump sum up to 20% pa	Yes, set minimum	No	No	·
Legal & General Mortgage Servs Mortgage by Design	6.24	Monthly min £50. If lump sum min £500	Yes within available reserve	Yes within available reserve	Yes	Incentives - free valuation and £350 towards costs
Market Harborough Building Soc Mortgage by Design	6.99	Monthly If lump sum - lst 4 yrs 10% of o/s balance	Yes, fixed for up to 2 years	Min £500	Yes after 1st year	3% of adv cash rebate. Free insurance offers. Fee £295
Choices	Any product	Yes. Min £25	Yes	Yes within available reserve	Yes	If over 95%, overpayment facility
Stroud & Swindon Building Soc Flexible Mortgage	6.99	Yes	No	Min £500, max 6 with- drawais in 12 mth period	No	3% of adv rebated over 1st 3 yes. (Rmiga 2% over 2 yes). Free valuation/legal costs
Sun Banking Corp Reflex Mortgage	6.99	Lump sum - min £750. Max 3 p.a.	No	Min£750,3 freewith- drawais partner£25 each	No	Fee £150
Tipton & Coseley Building Society Lifestyle	6.24	Yes	No .	Min £1000. 4 withdrawais	Max 6 mths after 1st yr	Advance £50K-£250K
Yorkshire Bank Flexible Payment Mortgage	6.99	Monthly fixed for 1 yr. If lump sum no min	Yes, fixed for 1 year	No	No	Fee £150 (ine valuation)

Lenders for your ups and downs

Clifford German explains the attractions of flexible payment mortgages

But flexible mortgages seem certain to hecome more popular in future.

Borrowing on flexible mortgages is usually at variable rates, which will go up and down with the general level of interest rates in the

The real flexibility however comes from the ability to vary the amounts and/or the. timing of repayments independently of the current rates of interest. As the table compiled by data providers MoneyFacts shows. around a dozen lenders offer various kinds of flexible mortgages.

Borrowers whose earnings fluctuate from. month to month - a category which includes contract workers as well as the outright selfemployed - can pay what they can afford, and. employees who get an annual honus can use it to pay down debts instead of financing a seasonal spending spree.

up children can also take advantage of a flex- built up enough credit to cover the additional ible mortgage to reduce payments in line with a borrowingsure to the mortgage to reduced earnings and catch up again when. The morease itself is not eligible for Miras Only Stroud & Swindon and Tipton & years.

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disappearing, to be replaced by a new about the risk of a rerun of the property for tax relief. But the flexible mortgage is still and more expensive range as lenders slump plunging them into negative equity has run out of cash secured at summertime rates. the automatic option of accelerating monthly payments in good times to huild up a eushon of equity in case the bad times return.

But it is important to choose the right lenders for your circumstances. Most - hut not quite all - will allow overpayments; most also allow borrowers to reduce monthly payments for a while, as their financial circumstances change, and some allow interest and/or capital repayment holidays, provided the initial loan has been reduced sufficiently to create some leeway. Some lenders, including Bank of Scotland,

and the Market Harborough, Tipton & Coseley and Stroud & Swindon huilding societies, also allow borrowers to use the mortgage account as a kind of bank and draw cheques on the account to pay for bome improvements, or indeed any other purpose. Most specify a minimum withdrawal of £500, but there are no restrictions on the use the Women who need a career break to hring money is put to, as long as the account has

Who said that what goes up must come down?

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ixed rate mortgage offers might start they return to work. Anyone still worried even if it is within the £30,000 limit eligible a very ebeap source of credit, well below the eost of a conventional personal loan, or even cash horrowed on gold cards or the new premium current account planned by NatWest

> Flexible mortgages can be combined with an endowment policy, a pension or PEP, hut repayment mortgages will automatically create the headroom needed to re-horrow money when required. With endowment, PEP or pension policies which only repay the loan as a lump sum at the very end of the term, it is necessary to make overpayments first, to create the necessary beadroom.

The main drawback to flexible mortgages at present is the cost of the underlying loan. Clydesdale Bank offers some fixed-rate flexible mortgages, and First National BS and Mortgage Trust combine flexible mortgages with up-front discounts, although they limit additional borrowing to a hare ±50. But the vast majority of flexible mortgages charge a standard variable rate, with no scope for discounted rates, and rely on the flexible repay-

Coseley offer incentives, in the form of cashhacks rather than discounts, and these are repayable if borrowers do not stay for a set minimum time after they have taken the

FirstMortgage, one of the mortgage by phone traders, has opened what it calls the first "mortgage supermarket", offering its own mortgages plus the products of 15 other lenders on its panel. It is becoming increas-ingly difficult for a single lender to be com-petitive across the whole range of mortgage options, says chief executive Niek Deutsch.

The range is also targeted at busy borrowers who do not want to shop around and will be attracted by a wide choice from a single source. Regulated insurance products are not supplied so an offer can be made in 15-20 minutes, against the 90-120 minutes a full fact-find may take.

Current offers include fixed rates from 1.95 per cent for a year, 4.35 per cent for two years, 6.45 per cent for three years and 7.24 per cent for five years. Variable rates range from 5.95 per cent with discounts of 3.99 per cent for a year up to 1.52 per cent for five



Newcastle Bullding Society is investors two free sale deals launching a fixed rate mortgage at 6.49 per cent between now and 2000, Buildings or contents or accident sickness and unemployment insurance must be taken with the society. Fees are £50 up-front plus £245 on completion and there is a 5 per cent penalty for redemption before January 2003.

Nationwide Building Society is offering a range of new mortgage rates, including a one year discount of 3.9 per cent on the current variable rate of 6.49 per cent for borrowers with a 25 per cent deposit, and a 29 per cent discount for deposits of less than 15 per cent. Discounts are also available over two and three years, as well as fixed rates of 5.75 per cent for two years, 6.99 per cent for three years and 8.15 per cent for five.

Another committed

mutual. Coventry Building Society, is launching a new range of discount, eashback and fixed rate mortgages. They include a 2.04 per cent discount for a year nn the standard variable rate, currently 6.99 per cent, plus a 3 per cent cashback, but there are penalties of 12 months' interest during the first three years and six mnnths' for the next two. Discounts of 1.75 per cent until May 2000 and 0.75 per cent for five years are available. Fixed rates include 4.9 per cent until January 1999 with a six month penalty for redemption before 2002.

General Accident has reduced premiums on its level term assurance policies. which pay a fixed sum if policyholders die within a set period, by between 7 per cent and 16 per cent. A policy for a male non-smoker aged 34 paying £100,000 on death within 10 years now costs £12.70 a month at 35, slightly more than the equiv-alent from Virgin Direct but at older ages General Acci-dent claims to undercut both Virgin and M&S as well as conventional competitors.

of any amount, plus all deals over £1,000 free if investors reinvest in a Birmingham Midshires stock ntarket growth account, which guarantees any growth in the FTSE 100 index over five years in full and a minimum guaranteed return of 10 per cent if the index falls or underperforms over the period. The minimum invest-ment is £2,500 and the offer is targeted at utility sharehilders worried about wind-

fall taxes. Market Harborough Building Society is offering 6.5 per cent gross on a new one year fixed rate bond with a minimum investment of £1,000 but a 90 day penalty is charged for withdrawals.

Abbey Life offers a new stand-alone pension product providing £150,000 cover at 60 to a 35-year-old nonsmoking male for £28.31 a month before tax relief. Call 01202-401679 or an independent financial adviser.

NatWest Bank is launching a new term assurance plan offering three levels of cover, from £50,000 to £100,000 over 1tt, 15 or 20 years. Premiums start at £4,75 a month at 18. Call 0800-255200 for details.

Fund manager NPI is launching a Latin American unit trust concentrating on major companies in the four main markets. The initial charge is 5.5 per cent, plus 1.5 per cent a year management, but sums as small as £500 are acceptable.

ShareLink has announced an Accumulator Plus PEP. with a guaranteed growth of 20 per cent, plus any rise in the FTSE index. There are no charges, and amounts between £1,000 and £9,001 ean be invested. Call 0121-236-4848 for details.

Johnson Fry has launched the third issue of its Income Safeguard Bond, offering a fixed return of 8 per cent a year free of basic rate tax, or a compounded return of 55 per cent after five and a half years, guaranteed even if stock markets fall 20 per cent. Minimum investment is £5,000.

declare

96 . THE INDEPENDENT

NEAS ACCIONES A CONTRACTOR 13 (4.2 (22.1) Committee Without the office. Million Late Committee Therein we note the post and I Boll and and smile. Thank the the cheek. quarters to her the own departs, or nonellist

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John Andrew on how to value an antique and sell it

Stories of lucky purchases at car boot sales make good reading pro-viding you are not the person who sold the item in the first place. It is often forgotten that for every antique purchased for a song and then sold for a forthinking of selling an antique, make sure you do not lose out.

Before selling anything, it is essential to have some idea of its value. Active collectors, of course, do have the advantage. However, those who have not been following the market for some time will be completely out of touch with prices. Books such as Miller's Antique Price Guide can be of assistance, but they can sometimes be misleading. Although the picture of the object in the book may appear to be the same as your piece, there could he subtle differences.

However, there is an easy way of finding out what your antiques are worth and it's free. The larger auction houses all give on-the-spot advice and valuations. Simply go to their front counter and you will be given helpful advice from a specialist without any obligation to consign the piece to auction. Valuation days are also held periodically out of town. Details will be announced in your local press.

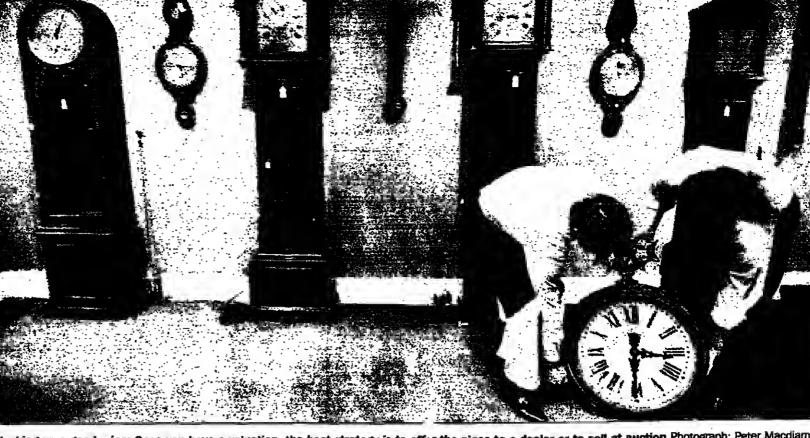
If you cannot get to a saleroom, send a photograph of the piece, together with a description. Include measurements and a sketch of any marks.

If you know its history, also include details. As well as identifying the object, tune, there is at least one loser. If you are an opinion will also be given as to the price it is likely to realise at auction.

Auction houses and dealers will also value items for insurance and prohate. A fee in the region of 1 per cent, plus any out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs, is generally charged for this service. Should you not know a reliable local antique dealer, contact the British Association of Antique Dealers (Bada) or the London Association of Provincial Antique Dealers (Lapada) and request a list of their members. Both organisations have very high standards.

Lapada, which has more than 700 members, will advise you of the dealers in your area who specialise in particular subjects. The organisation categorises its members' interests into 250 specialist classifications and matches an inquirer's needs to what its membership can offer.

Having established what a particular piece is worth, you then have to decide the way in which you are going to turn your object into cash. If you know col-



sell at suction Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

lectors who may be interested, you could always try a private sale. It is also possihle to advertise in magazines or newspa-pers, but such a route does present a potential security risk.

The better course is to offer the piece to a dealer, or to sell at auction. While there are some dealers who will buy anything, if you have something desirable it is best to offer it to a specialist. Selling direct to the trade does mean that you will receive a specific sum instantly.

However, there could always be the nagging feeling that a better sum could have been obtained. Human nature is such that certain individuals are never happy with the price they obtain for anything. For this reason, some dealers will only huy from the public if the sellers name their price.

Should you not need the money immediately, you can always ask a reputable dealer to sell the item for you on commission. The sum you receive will nor-

mally be better than for an outright sale, though of course, the length of time it will take to sell the piece will be unknown. Typically dealers charge around 10 to 20 per cent for this service. Naturally you should agree the minimum sum which you are prepared to accept and obtain written evidence of your arrangement.

money

The final method of selling is at auction. Part of the auctioneer's skill lies in putting an object into a sale which will give you the best possible price. Even at the larger auction bouses, which bold regular specialist sales, the period between consigning the item and the actual sale can be eight weeks or more. There will also be a further wait of up to four weeks before you receive the proceeds.

Normally when you put an item in a sale, the auctioneer will agree a reserve with you. This is a sum below which the item will not be sold. Should it not sell, you will not be charged commission. Of course, you can stipulate a higher reserve.

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(ISSUE 4)

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commission based on your reserve price. Naturally, the price at which the object

sells depends on the bidding on the day. It is not unknown for two equally determined potential buyers to battle for possession, seemingly at any price. Equally, a very desirable object can attract little interest. You could be extremely pleased or a little disappointed with the outcome.

Auction houses charge both vendors and buyers. Sellers are typically charged a com-mission of 15 per cent (plus VAT). Some auction houses have a minimum charge. Additionally, there is an insurance charge, normally 1 per cent of the hammer price. If the item is illustrated in the catalogue, there will normally be a photographic fee.

Whatever course you decide to follow when selling antiques: it is important that

when selling antiques, it is important that you feel comfortable. This is my experience of consigning an object to auction. The gentleman at the first saleroom W1. Tel: 0171-493-8080

However, if you do this and the lot does not find a huyer, you will have to pay a to realise £400." His colleague was not as enthusiastic so I moved on. At the second, an arrogant individual dismissed it with: "Only worth £150." I disagreed. The specialist at the third described it as "exquisite". We agreed on a reserve of £500 and it sold for £600.

Contact addresses: BADA, 20 Rutland Gate London SW7. Tel: 0171-589-4128

LAPADA, Suite 214, 535 Kings Road, London SW10. Tel: 0171-823-3511 Bonhams, Montpelier Street, London SW7. Tel: 0181-584-9161 Christie's, 8 King Street, London SWI. Tel:

0171-839-9060 Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Bromp ton Road, London SW7, Tel: 0171-581-7611 Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1. Tel: 0171-629-6602

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Unit trusts need good switching

Tony Lyons seeks the best advice

lems in dealing with a financial adviser is that they never give advice an investor really wants

In these days of ever stricter regulation of financial services, no advisers will stick their neck out with their recommendations. More often than not, having found out whether the investor is a) interested in capital growth or income; and h) whether he or she is cautious or wants to take above average risks, they will play safe and end up recommending a managed fund, or perhaps a

large equity fund. Most companies offering unit-linked investment policies, however, offer a whole stable of funds.

Once an investor has purchased a policy with any management group, they are usually allowed to switch their investments within the group. Typically, the first switch cost others. It sells its service additionals

leave their investment to switch funds. where it is.

specialist funds within any management group.

Yet in any particular year it is normally one of these smaller specialist funds that puts in the best performance in the groups. Over the past few years, we have seen high technology Far Eastern and US funds dominate the top performance lists at various times. But few investors have switched holdings into these at the appropriate time.

Now a new company is offering advice on which fund within an investment manage-

ment stable is likely to be the top performer in the near future. Trend Track, based in Hnddersfield, uses the moving average unit price to spot when one particular fund in any investment group is about to in any year is free and start outperforming the

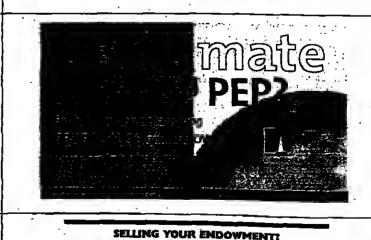
then looking at between £15 and £25 to independent finaneach. But few seem to cial advisers. The client take advantage of this is charged £100 a year facility, preferring to for the advice on when

Trend Track has plot-This inertia explains ted the performance of why the managed and funds in the largest the best fund to invest general equity funds are groups and shown up a in for the coming year. much larger than the significant outperformance. Managing director Ken Hanning gives as an example a 45-yearold with a £10,000 fund already invested in Scottish Equitable's Managed Fund and who

contributes £100 a

month. ·Over five years, this would have grown by just over 50 per cent. Using Trend Track and making a number of switches, especially into Scottish Equitable's Pacific, US. Fixed Interest and Property funds. would have grown the investment by 136 per cent. This was better even than being in the company's best performing fund for the whole five years.

"Advisers have used past performance, which is ancient history," says Ken Hanning. "We use 30-week moving averages of unit prices undated every week."



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of 3,35% for 1

Three years after witnessing the Liberation of Paris, Henri Cartier Bresson was in New Orleans on a Harper's Bazaa assignment with the young India Capote, Capote just 23 and look ing distinctly illenom - Daes Nineties bratpar than post-war intellectual - har just been selected to appear in the 1946 O Henry Memorial Award Volume for his short story, 'Miriam'. This

amospheric

portrait is take

from 'Cartier.

Artiess Art' by

Jean-Pierre Mor

tier (Thames &

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examination of

the work of the

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biographical

Bresson and the

ngleton

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Relentless in her wesone liners and actoms tNBIMK, not had for Mis-Keynes, BC, life belough birth) . Lette's humour, funes bears down with & force of a sledge hanne Count for little in the min throcs of personal deposton who need their oles: large. I was arraising forths.

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ance profits and further £7m

cut in the estate agency loss should mean double-figure

Improved results from

Hambro Countrywide will

help profits of its parent Hambros Bank recover, pre-

dicted UBS. From a low point

of £14m this year, Hambros

Bank should make £50m pre-

Two other stocks in the

property sector, Savills and John D Wood, have already

benefited from the improve-

ment in the housing market.

Unlike Hambro Countrywide

both specialise in the middle

to upper sector of the market,

where prices began to recover two years ago. Both returned to profits 18 mooths ago and their full-year figures pub-lished in July showed the

improvement acceleratiog.

For Savills, the full year was

18 per ceoi ahead at £4.1m

while Joho D Wood was 45

per cent ahead at £729,000.

Shares in both companies

have doubled in the last 12

mooths, John D Wood to 75p

and Savills to 87p. John D

Wood is currently capitalised

at £6m and Savills at about

£33m. compared with £335m

for Hambro Countrywide.

Shares in John D Wood

should be more marketable in

future as the company is seek-

ing a full listing. Both merit

coosideration for their above

average dividend yield and

continued progress in their

In spite of the strong recov-ery this year none of the trio's

share prices are anywhere

near the late-Eighties levels

core markets.

tax in 1997.

group profits for 1997.

A few home truths

With the housing market on the rise, Michael Goodman combs the property sector for the best bets in shares

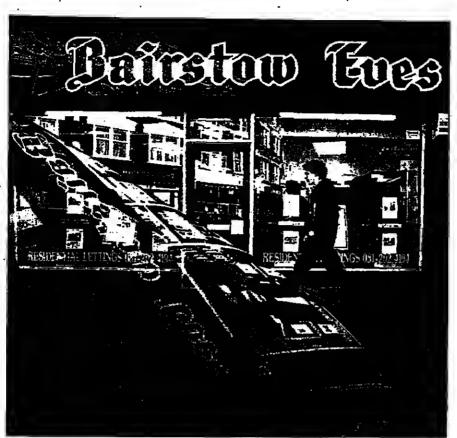
Suddenly, housing is back in fashion. Pundits are gazumping each other with forecasts of a recovery in prices and activity. At least 1.3 million homes will change hands this year, and if the number of sufferers from so called "negative equity" continues to plummet even more homeowners will move in

Estate agents are early beneficiaries of this improve-meot. Any rise in the oumber of moves coupled with even. modest price rises rapidly feeds into their commissioo income. In technical jargon, the business is "highly

It's not before time. The business bas been decimated since the Eighties boom. The main corporate players who rushed in to gain high street outlets for mortgages and insurance have either retired hurt or suffered heavy losses. The top eight surviving corporates, most of which are owned by banks or insurance compaoies, reported 1995 losses totalling £77m, against £42m in 1994. Poor sales after a promising spring, plus a fee-cutting war, made 1995 a difficult year. Hambro Countrywide, the only one of the top eight to he publicly quoted in its own right, saw its share price slither to the 30p range last winter. Since the spring it has bounced back spectacularly to a high of 95p after turning in good half-year results.

It made £10.5m against a £5.8m loss in the first half of full year, wheo the group's estate agency business made a £22m loss, was partly offset by profits from life insurance and financial services.

Much of the estate agency loss was due to a one-off factor, the loss-making former Nationwide estate agents, unloaded by the building soci-ety in autumn 1994. Nation and 1980 sestate agency was



Bouncing back: Bairstow Eves, part of Hambro Countrywide Photograph: Philip Meech

wide suffered a bad case of ocgative equity, as it let them go for a mere pound. The deal was not quite what it seemed however as Natioowide also received a 3.4 per ceot stake in Hambro Countrywide and a further £7m for the profitable surveying side

1995, and a £3.9m loss for the are now the largest high street estate agency chain in the country. More than 700 outlets trade under separate local names such as Mann and Co, Bairstow Eves, Dixons and Spencers, as that seems to be what homebuyers prefer.

When Hambro Country-

all the rage and it made profits from this business alone. The board was shrewd enough to pay for acquisitions with shares rather than cash and to set up its own life insurance business as the housing hubble burst.

Hambros Bank holds 52 of the business.
The combined businesses per cent of Hambro Countrywide equity and had earlier hacked the legendary Sir Mark Weinberg to build up Abbey Life and Hambro Life in the Seventies. The other big shareholder is insurance group Guardian which holds about 20 per cent.

helped offset the mounting estate agency losses during ance profit and an estate

the future. In September 1995, Hambro Assured Life, as the life office is now called, bought out Premium Life. Reorganisation of the former Premium Life threw up a ooe-off £2.5m addition to the 1995 profit and loss account while life husiness profits rose fivefold to £16.5m. In terms of

life business is probably worth over £100m, roughly a third of the group's capitalisation. Before the housing market took off this summer, analysts at UBS had already predicted Hambro Countrywide would Life assurance profits return to profit this year thanks to increased life assur-

policies in force, the group's

before the bubble hurst. In 1988 Hambro Countrywide topped 150p while the other two peaked above 100p. All three have shown surges in the past only to fall away as the housing market failed to meet forecasts.

If this time the improvethe past five years and they agency loss trimmed to ment is "for real" then these will be more in evidence in 1100ms Been bigger insur- shares are still worth huying.

The winning strategy is: do nothing

Jonathan Davis

cumstances, that indexing

buying a fund whose objective is simply to match the overall

movement of the stock market

- is becoming increasingly

popular, especially with insti-tutional investors. In the

United States, the amount of

money managed this way grew

from \$10bn in 1980 to \$250bn

a decade later. (You may have

seen that BZW, the UK invest-

ment bank, which is the mar-

disciplined approach, so the professionals always tell us, is the key to success in investment. Now, thanks to James O'Shaughnessy, an American investment adviser, we have a splettdid new example to show how successful a simple method, consistently applied, can be. His research into stock selection methods has unearthed the activities - perhaps non-activities would be a better word - of the Lexington

Corporate Leaders Trust. This trust was first set up in 1935. Its objective was to hold 30 shares. The ooly investment criterion was that they should be leaders in their industries at the time. The number of shares the trust booght was exactly the same for each company, regardless of the price. And just to make the job of running the portfolio even easier, the trustees were forbidden to change the shares to account for the fluc-

tuating fortunes of the companies they originally selected. You could not, in other words, find an iovestment method that was any simpler or - seemingly - less rational. Many investors, we know, tend to overtrade, but leaving a portfolio completely immune to anything that happens in the ourside world seems to be taking the principle of passive investing too far.

Yet guess what? Over the last 20 years, this do-nothing portfolio, which now bolds only 23 shares, has consistently outperformed the main US market index, the S&P 500. And what is more, the trust has beaten all but 15 per cent of conventionally managed funds in the US.

Luck or judgment? Mr O'Shaughnessy has no doubts. His conclusion reinforces the view that most active investment strategies simply do not deliver what they promise. No fewer than 80 per cent of munual funds (the US equivalent of our unit trusts) fail to beat the market index over any reasonable time frame.

ket leader in the field, says in future it will do no active fund management at all.) What makes Mr O'Shaughnessy's conclusion important is the wealth of data that lies

behiod it. He is the first researcher to have been given access to Standard & Poor's entire database of stock market prices stretching back 43 years. The power of modern computing means he has beco able to crunch these numbers to find out, in a systematic way. which kind of shares - and which type of stock selection methods - have done best

over that period. For those who like numbers, the result is a statistical treat. There is not space to do justice to all Mr O'Shaughnessy's findings, but here are just a few, to give a flavour:

 The surest and most consistent way to lose money over time is to buy the most popular shares in the market - ie those with the highest p/e ratios, or lowest dividend yield, and so on. High p/e ratios are particularly dangerous. The stocks with the highest p/c ratios underperform the market nearly 90 per cent of the

It is no surprise, in the cir. • The value indicator that

works best over time is the price to sales ratio. (This, ironieally, is one indicator which is rarely used on this side of the Atlantic by stock market analysts). Shares selected on the basis that they have the lowest price to sales ratio consistently outperform the market.

 Generally speaking, picking shares on a "value" basis is berter than hunting for "growth" shares, but the best strategies combine the best of both methods. Relative strength (how shares have performed relative to the market in the most recent past) is an important component of nearly all the most successful strategies over time.

 Of scores of different strate. gies studied, a ntixed strategy. half in large stocks with high dividend yields and the other half in smaller companies with persistent earnings gains, low price to sales ratios and good relative strength provided the best and most consistent returns after adjusting for

But as with the Lexington Corporate Leaders trust, it is the implications that are most important. Not for nothing have fund maoagers and stockhrukers been awaiting his results with some trepidation. The findings are a pretty devastating indictment of active fund management techniques that underlie the industry's central marketing proposition.

But of course, as with so many things, investors only get what they themselves ultimately want. Mr O'Shaughnessy's conclusion on the fallibility of the individual investor is also severe, but equally incontrovertible.

"Successful investing runs contrary to human nature" he concludes, "We make the simple complex, follow the crowd, fail in love with the story, let the emotions dictate decisions, buy and sell on tips and hunches, and approach each investment decision on a case-by-case hasis, with no underlying consistency or

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Cheisea BS	0800.132351	POST-Tel 20 Day	20 day P	£5000	6.05	Yea
Chelses BS	0800 132351	POST-Tel 20 Day	20 day P	£25,000	6.30	.Yea
Cheltenham & Glouc National Counties BS	0800 717505 01372 747771	Direct 30 Direct 90	30 day P 90 day	£100 £50,000	5.50 · 6.50	Yea Yea
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Kleinwort Benson	01202 502404	HICA	Instant	£2.500	5.00	Mo
Halifax BS	01422 335333	Asset Reserve	Instant	£10,000	4.00	Qua
Chelsea 8S	0800 717515	Classic Postal	instant	£10,000 -	4.35	ESY
Chelsea BS	0800 717515	Classic Postal	Instant	£25,000	4.65	Yea
Birmingham Midshires	0645 720721	Food Rate Bond	1 Year	£5.000	6.30F	Yea
Yorkshire BS	0800 378836	Fixed RateBond	31/3/98	25,000	6.60F	Mai
Leeds & Holback BS	0113 225 7777	Fixed Rate Bond	2 Year	. £1,000	6.85F	Yea
Coverity BS	0345 665522	Fixed Rate Bond	30/11/99	000,13	7.30F	Year
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Birmingham Midshires	0645 720721	, 1	5 years	£1,900	7.00	Yea
Principality BS	01222 344188		5 years	£500	6.80	Yea
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Derbyshire (TOM) Ltd	01624 663432	90 Day Notice	90 Day	£25,000	6.55	Year
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				£25,000	5.50	Year
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and obtain points			AL IJRANICI	£20,000	6.25F	Year
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Children's Bond		Issue H	5 year	£25	6.75F	Wah



fear of finance

en Clarke's interest rate increase, like the housemaid's baby, is only a small one, but it is definitely an increase, and io tho oature of these things it is likely to be only the first of a family of rate rises over the next two years while the economy takes time to respond to the signal and slows down from what the Chaocellor oow sees as an unsustainable

Recorded cases of a trend being reversed after just one move are rare indeed, and 7 per ceot looks likely by the end of oext year.

by the end of oext year.

But unlike the housemaid, the Chancellor will
expect to echance his reputation for prudence, probity
and putting doty before
pleasure and political
opportuoism.

That will last at least until the Budget, when the cynics oow believe he will use his oew-found reputation for mouetary rectitude to justify some fiscal laxity, in the shape of tax cuts which could oot otherwise be delivered without risking a run on sterling. If he holds back oo tax cuts oow, he really will be a candidate

for sainthood.

But credit where it is due. He has dooe a remarkable job in sustaining the recovery, which looked like faltering in 1994, without having to put rates up until oow, but the Prime Minister has never been able to call the election on the back of the recovery and the Chancellor has finally been forced to concede an upturn in rates with the election

still seven mooths away.

In the short run, the first rise in interest rates for two years is unlikely to have much immediate impact oo persooal borrowers or investors.

The link hetweeo hase rates and borrowing and leoding rates is not as immediate as it used to be.

The big mortgage lenders have been quick to assure borrowers that they have no plans to raise their standard variable mortgage rates, and there have been few immediate changes in rates

offered to investors.

The most immediate beneficiaries will be iovestors who have treasury accounts with merchant bankers

Close Brothers.

The minimum investment is £50,000 and the interest is automatically linked to rates in the Loodon interbank market.

It pays out the bid rate, which is 0.125 per cent below the offer rate, but it is automatically reset each mooth and from yesterday the rate has jumped to 6½ per ceot.

Other changes are few and far between as our weekly table from Money-Facts (left) confirms. But we have now entered a period of phoney war on interest rates.

Nothing dramatic is happening and this week's rise in rates alooe is uolikely to kill the recovery in the housing market.

Demand for mortgages remains relatively low, if only hecause there is a shortage of houses for sale, hut overall demand for credit is rising and competition for savings will certainly push rates up the oext time base rates move.

They might oot rise a full 50 hasis points (0.5 per cent) next time, but some adjustments are inevitable oext time bases rates go up.

Meanwhile with hase rates set to he above current levels for two, maybe three more years, existing fixed rate mortgage offers up to the end of the century at least will look increasingly attractive.

These offers may be exhausted and replaced by progressively higher rates.

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1 - THE INDEPENDEN

The Ford transformation a radical drive forward



The Ford Ka (top): a worthy sucessor to the Model-T

were mostly under-engineered cars that delivered the absolute bare minimum of driving pleasure, styling sophistication and technical ingenuity. Sure, amid all the sad little Popular Pluses and 1.3Ls there were the sporty XR2s and RS Cosworths, which at least offered Dave and his lager-drinking mates a shove in the back on the way to getting a pint down their throats. But they were invariably such crude cars - all brawn and no brains.

And yet, at the recent British Motor Show, Ford bad the most intriguing and meritorious display of new cars of any of the British-based mass makers - and among the best range of cars in Europe. In the space of a few years, the one-time disseminator of Dagenham dustbins has launched a raft of really good cars. The latest is the Ford Ka, which is not only great to drive but

Why the change? Not so long ago, Fords appealed to unpretentious folk it had embarrassingly poor ban-

ot that many years ago, Fords who wanted simple transport. Cars such as the Cortina offered simple transport, if nothing else. But, while technically and stylistically bolder Minis and Morris 1100s and Citroen GSs and Alfasuds were regularly found littering motorway hard shoulders, the Cortina kept on keeping on. Fords were cheap, there were loads of dealers, and you knew what you were getting. It was a continuation of the old Model T philosophy, that was Ford's hallmark.

Just occasionally Ford tried to get bold. The Sierra, styled by German Uwe Bahnsen, was a forward-thinking car that invented the "jelly mould organic styling philosophy of the Eighties. But, predictably, conservative Ford customers hated it. They bought Vauxball Cavaliers instead. Little wonder that Ford retreated back into its shell after the Sierra shock.

The last Escort, launched in 1990. was the turning point. Sure, it was reliable, and sure, there were loads of dealers. The flip side, though, was that

and Japanese makers were offering attractive, mechanically refined little cars which were reliable to boot, an unsophisticated little tin box was never going to be good enough. And the punters said "no". This shocked Ford, who had never credited the car buyer with much discernment.

Things got better after that, starting with the Mondeo - one of the nicer driving cars in the class, if one of the duller looking. But sales were still slipping in Britain. A car company which once had 30 per cent of the market with five models had slipped to 21 per cent with seven. Dull product was the reason. And Ford belatedly realised it. This also coincided with a management shake-up (falling sales usually do).

There were two key appointments. One was the gravelly-voiced, Lebanese-born Australian Jac Nasser, as head of Ford of Europe - a man

dling/ride/steering and was noisy and Welshman Richard Parry-Jones, unrefined. At a time when European appointed chief engineer for vehicle development. Parry-Jones is without doubt one of Europe's finest car engineers. (Both bave since been promoted. Nasser is now president of Ford, based in Detroit, while Parry-Jones bas worldwide responsibility for the engineering of all cars of Mondeo

size and below.) The big gamble came a few years later, in 1994, with the latest Scorpio. This was Ford signalling, in a rather unsubtle way, its intention to be different. The styling execution was lousy - the Scorpio is one of the most

hideous cars ever unleashed on unsuspecting motorists (its nickname is the Ford Frankenstein). But at least you have to admire the guts behind it. In a class full of me-too motors, here was a real head-turner, even if it turned some stomachs too.

The latest carp-faced Fiesta is another example of Ford style which with both a passion for good cars and owes more to the fish tank than the catasharp business brain. The other was walk. But it is the best driving small car declining sales. owes more to the fish tank than the cat-

in the world and - in 16-valve form has one of the best engines.

The new Ford Ka and revised Mondeo, both stars of the Ford stand at the recent Motor Show, prove that Ford's stylists are now starting to design cars that look different and look good. On the road, both are class leaders.

Ford, former frump of the car world, now one of the innovators. Next up in two years is a new Escort, traditionally Ford's most basically styled and minimally engineered machine. But the new one will be a radical looker and is bound to drive well, given Ford's recent track record.

Ford's transformation will encourage other makers who have traditionally trod the technically minimalist path to try a bit harder. That's invariably the upshot of the market leader moving on. The result should be cheerier roads, with better looking cars that are fun to drive. Ford also hopes the upshot will be a growing market share, after more than a decade of



Ford Mondeo

was being roasted by the motoring press for complacency. As the products of cynical that-will-do design, its mainstream models were at best paragons of mediocrity. That the Fiesta and Escort were also top sellers in Britain had more to do with Ford's huge dealer network and fleet business than

product approbation. Ford has made mistakes since - the gruesome styling of the spurned Scorpio, for instance, and the wimpish image of the slow-selling Terrano hut the company's standing bas risen immeasurably since the launch in March 1993 of the Mondeo, which marked a turning point in design philosophy.

After the Sierra's replacement - the best Ford in years - came a programme of model rejuvenation that saw the Fiesta elevated to elass-leading status, and the Escort turned into a worthy rival for the Peugeot 306. New models like the Galaxy (the best of the newwave MPVs), and the Fiesta-based Ka (the holdest tiddler since the Mini) espoused design and engineering ideals.

Under this welcome new regimen, the acid test for Ford was always going to be a Mk 2 Mondeo. It was one thing to sweeten a lemon like the early Fiesta, something else to make the excellent Mondeo much better. But better it is, and by a significant margin. Gone, for a start, are

the anonymous, globular looks. There's no mistaking the newcomer's bold face or voluptuous rump, though the flanks in between remain largely unchanged. Ford has addressed criticisms of limited space in the back with a little more legroom, Safety, comfort, refinement, economy, security, emissions and running costs also came under the microscope in a comprehensive and effective makeover.

Mondeos were always good to drive. The engineer who supervised their design and development, car enthusiast Richard Parry-Jones, had a hand in the originals' nifty handling, incisive steering and good grip. So did former world champion Jackie Stewart.

The Mk 2 drives even better. You sense

through firm suspension that a little ride comfort has been sacrificed for agility, but no one's gning to complain too much about that. Excellent front seats and a driving position that can be tine-tuned to sun most shapes offset any mild jitterbugs. A bigbuttoned radio served by remote controls is one of several facia improvements. Even the gearchange benefits

from a new linkage. Refinement was always a forte of the quick and Invutious Vos so vocally sonorous. Ford has made no attempt to muffle them. And it's the more popular four-cylinder models that have gained from Ford's assault on its old enemies of N. V and H – noise, vibration and harshness - making the incoming cars sweeter, smoother and quieter than the ones

they displace. Even in a class of high achievers, the Mondeo is once again the family car to beat. Here's how the 2.0-litre opposition shapes up against it at £15,000-16,000.

Citroen Xantia Good looks and self-levelling suspension main attractions. Rides and handles well. Turbodiesel combines zap with economy. Dreary interior.

Nissan Primera Great to drive, boring to behold. Masks lalents under drab suit. Well made and finished. competitive on most fronts. Recommended

Peugeot 406 Elegant. spacious, refined, smooth riding qualities that make the 406 special New 2.0 turbo answers criticisms of indifferent performance.

Renault Laguna Styling and comfort - of scats and ride - are strong points of five-door Laguna, undistinguished on performance, econnmy, refinement.

Rover 420 Looks good, goes very well, pleasant in drive. So what's the catcb? Lack of space in a car that's too small to trade punches with the

Vauxhall Vectra 2.0 Disappointing dejà vu styling. Strong. powerful engine, long legs, decent economy. Lacklustre handling to be addressed by new suspension tweaks.

Roger Bell

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IN THE SUNDAY REVIEW

In Britain, the press go mad about Fergie and Di. In Italy, they're crazy about the Pope - and the more the Holy Father's health deteriorates, the crazier they get. Andrew Gumbel investigates the strange world of the Vaticanisti, the papal paparazzi who are turning an ailing religious leader into a media spectacle

Are you getting enough? Or are you being left behind by the new generation of super-earners? Charles Leadbeater introduces the ultimate guide to who earns what in Britain, and explains the winner-take-all trend in salaries that is creating a new politics of envy

He seems like a right pillock to me...' Ian Broudie of the Lightning Seeds tells Nicholas Barber about the day John Redwood went Britpop

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Guy Fawkes strikes again

Tim Stein meets a firestarter extraordinaire



Before and after: pyrotechnician Mik Amabilino at work

nvite Mik Amabilino to your bonfire party (or any party, in fact) and the champagne corks won't be the only things popping. Imagine a 30ft, fire-work-propelled belicopter landing in your back garden to the rat-tatting sounds of ack-ack devices and Manfred Mann's Starbird soundtrack, or Indians and cavalry officers in mock battle, firing arrows of light at one another across a lake. Or

A pyrotechnician par excellence, 39vear-old Amabilino is, as far as he knows, the only independent show designer and producer of firework displays in the busi-ness, though clearly his slogan - Unique Shows For Unique People - indicates it's considerably more than this. After working as a window dresser in a jewellery shop and as an art and craft technician he became broked on fireworks when his younger brother wrote a school project about them. "Fireworks are a very memorable form of entertainment," he says, "I try to expand people's expectations of them, to make them see things they

haven't seen before." Of his shows, 99 per cent are choreo-graphed to music, with each one "individually tailured to the client's event". Some may include the integration of lighting effects, lasers, fire drawings (burning ropes of a pictorial nature from £250), or they may take the more gentle form of a scene-setting piece such as a swan lantern (from £500) or a giant effigy of a Hindu god. Some clients have been known to spend as much as £30,000 on a single show. But what a show.

Safety suggestions for a painless Bonfire night

O oman candles and Trockets, bangers and air bombs: the shops are full of them this week. Modern fireworks are cheaper, higger and more varied than ever shall spend some £30m on more than 140 million of them this year. The danger is that the number of people wbo are injured by tireworks

will go up, too. Most firework accidents happen to children, and though we think of sparklers as rather sweet and innocuous, they are in fact a major culprit. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) advises that sparklers should never be waved about or given to the under-fives, that burntout sparklers should be

As for the other 1 per cent, Amabilino acts as an agent for companies supplying self-starting display packs, designed for those people "who want to light their own match," as he himself puts it. "Of course," he says, "the kits come with full safety instructions and a professional lighting device - not just a match". Costing upwards of £150 and lasting between 15

plunged into a bucket of cold water and that you should always wear gloves when lighting them. A hit stern? Not according

to the DTL who say that together generate the heat of a blowtorch. "Children will reach out to grab sparklers," says Roger Vincent of RoSPA, "and if they run around with them. they could poke out an eye. In view of the risks, sparklers are now banned from some public events, he adds.

Of the 1.530 people who had hospital treatment after firework accidents last year, most were injured in the street, or at back-garden displays. This year the DTI — as well as RoSPA — is campaigning hard to stop

and 20 minutes, they might contain an assortment of fireworks (roman candles, Catherine wheels, animated skeletons and so on) and, possibly, a piece of lancework - a metal frame on which you can

set up a message in coloured lights. The most popular choices of wording are, not surprisingly, "Happy birthday" or "Happy Xmas" and they can usually be lit

the numbers going higher. They recommend that you always huy fireworks from a shop you know, checking that they have "British Standard BS7114" written

Other common-sense safety advice is to follow instructions, to light fireworks at arm's length using a taper and to stand well back. Tempting though it is, never go back to the ones you have lit but which haven't taken off. And don't put fireworks in your pocket in case sparks or cinders get in there, too. Another golden rule is that fireworks should never be thrown.

Given the power of some fireworks, it's as well that we have laws on their safety (the Explosives Act of 1875).

Throwing or setting off fireworks — including bangers - in the street or other public places is in fact a criminal offence with a maximum fine of £5,000. also an offence, while . "tampering" with fireworks can carry a fine and/or a

Shops that sell fireworks have to be registered with their local authority, and by law can only sell to over-16s. But according to RoSPA, children on school trips to France may bave 'smuggled" in fireworks that are more powerful than those on sale here. So watch out for children going.
"Occoooh ... la la."

in a matter of minutes. The series of tiny

prison sentence.

Brigid McConville

linked flares are fused across the top, so one ignition will light them all. "It's a bit like joining the dots," Amabilino explains.
The mere mention of Christmas triggers a flood of ideas. "I could do you some outdoor lancework – reindeers with sleights, for instance, or a Father Christmas climbing down a chimney..." A real chimney, I ask?

"Yes," he says with a laugh, "hut it would depend on the roof, where it was, and the size of the stack and so on. As long as it's

safe I'm always open to suggestions."

On the other hand, you could always opt for a frothing silver fountain or an appropriately wintry snow storm - outdoor fire displays of a remarkable kind (from £1,000); a glowing canework lantern in the shape of an angel, a crown or a shepberds there are those exploding cakes...

For £100 or so, and at approximately six weeks notice, a simple pyrotechnical device placed in the centre of a traditional Christmas cake ("a nice old lady we know makes them") could, with the flick of a switch, send a shower of confetti, miniature flags or streamers around the room leaving the room - and, one trusts, the guests - intact. If you wanted to destroy the cake as well, that can be arranged. "Though I'm assuming." Amabilino says, "that you don't want bits of food splattered about the place."

Self-fire display packs (from £135) include a proper lighting device and full safety instructions, providing a 15 to 20 minute show. If you'd like the pack and someone to operate it for you, it will set you back upwards of £210. Available from 2 November. From 6 November you can commission an operated fire show. You will need to give at least two weeks notice, and can expect to pay anything from £1,000 for a individual display choreographed to music. For more information, call Mik Amabilino Pyro Displays on 0181-445 9001.

The thing about sausages



 ood for thought the Meat and
 Livestock Commission claims that 39 per cent of the British eat sausages at least once a week. eat sausages at least once a week.
Last year, we ploughed through
300,000 tonnes: 12lh per capits of
the population. Make an adjustment
for vegetarians, health faddists,
BSE-fearers (reports that even
sausages labelled "pork" contained
a proportion of beef products have
caused queasy moments), the caused queasy moments), the religiously inclined, heart patients and dieters, and the true figure is probably around 18ib. Which means that we're each eating around three

sausages a week.

This figure seems rather low. If you have ever watched a barbecue, you will bave noticed that even the snootiest supermodel can chow six snootest supermodel can crow six of the things as they bounce from the coals. Bonfire night alone will probably account for a month's worth of sausage consumption. Imagine a vegan bonfire night: "Fancy some Linda McCartney textured vegetable protein before

we set fire to the compost heap?" The thing about sausages is that they're not so much a culinary choice as a way of life. Indeed, if you read the Euro-scare stories that form the backbone of our tabloids, you could well believe that the one thing the British hold dear, apart from the right to work 80-hour weeks if our employers want, is our sausages. Brussels wants our bangers! Beware the Eurocrat! He wants to limit the ratio of hreadcrumbs to meat, cut down on hoof, hair and gristle. They'll be having us eating garlic next. Our national culture is at stake. Vote Goldsmith!

WILLIAM

The real

UT THE COST OF READING!

A change, though, is creeping through the culture, and it's come in via the increasingly sophisticated palates of shoppers. Where the sausage used to be a simple comfort food, it is now a statement of pretension. This is no bad thing. I still have nightmares about the sausages we were force-fed at primary school. Anyone who's ever choked on a rubber glove filled with sourdough will have a rough idea. Nowadays, the average supermarket basket is almost as likely to contain a six-pack of pork and leek as

anything pink and droopy. A study of chill counters reveals a disturbing preponderance of development department dreams Waitrose, among the "traditional" varieties, sells Toulouse (£1.49). Pork and Leek (£1749) and Spicy Mediterranean (paprika, pepper and chilli) (£1.79). Safeway plays it safe with Lincolnshires, Cumberlands and Porkinsons. Marks & Spencer, whose genius in inventing bangers with the fried onion incorporated (£1.99) deserves applause, also wins the award for most revolting food idea for 1996: Daffy Duck Sausage Nuggets with crisp-crumb coating (£1.59).

Asda have gone the higgest bundle on the trend. They now offer 23 types, including Tomato, Mesquite, Spanish Caliente, Aberdeen Angus, Toulouse, and Pork and Leek. This week, Toffee Apple – pork with dried apple and a maple syrup glaze (99p) – joined the range. They look weird in the page They look weird. in the pack. They cause havoc on the grill pan. And, to someone who coped with primary school sausages by adding honey, they taste heavenly. I'm just waiting for chicken and peanut butter.

Serena Mackesy



bazaar

Preview Country Living Christmas Fair

hristmas shopping begins in earnest when the lights go on in Oxford Street next week, but if you don't fancy the retail jungle of the West End then the Country Living Christmas Fair offers a civilised, one-stop shop.
From next Friday the Business Design

Centre in Islington will be given over to the serious business of arts and crafts and it's a great place to get ready-wrapped ideas for recipes, decorations and gifts. Foodies can pick up truffies or cocoadusted walnuts, pick up a smartly packaged Melton Mowhray Pork Pie or buy freshly aromatised olives from Provence. For the lazy gourmand there are traditional mixed hampers, or baskets of Devon ice-cream.

Kitsch fetishists will be able to gild the lily with plaster cherubs, candleholders and table decorations. There are even work-

frames with gold leaf, sequin cards or learn "original ways with tassels, ribbons and bows". Exquisite gifts for children

include strawberry-shaped shoes, classic rocking-horses and monair teddy bears. If all that sounds 100 chichi, get back to hasics with the traditional present - socks (all right, these are hand-made) or arrange delivery of organic food such as fresh Cornish fish. After this four-day marathon of seasonal generosity, treat yourself to a "witty, wearable" beadpiece from Coco Hats or a sumptuous velvet scarf (to wear on your next shopping expedition).

'Country Living' Christmas Fair, The Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1, 8-11 Nov. 10am-6pm daily, £10; special rate of £8.50 for 'Independent' readtable decorations. There are even work-shops showing you how to decorate picture 9.30pm, £6. Tickets on 0171-288 6888.

good thing

Toffee Apple Kit, £1.95

What can you do with sticks, cellophane, ties and "a recipe to produce eight in minutes"? Sounds like an S&M dream come true - and this little DIY kit offers plenty of sticky fun. Now you can arrive at

Bonfire night with your own personal stash of home-made toffee apples. created to your own specification (loads of toffee). Come to think of it, as long as you can hold it on the end of a stick, cover it with toffee and wrap it in cellophane you could make



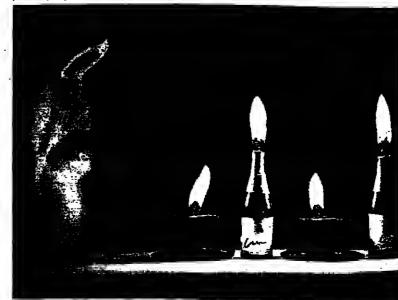
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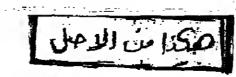
Celebration Candles, £3.75

A cake decoration pack for that celebratory feel. These candles take the form of miniature top hats and champague bottles to put the icing on the icing on the cake. Very cute, but it actually looks like a lot of very small

people have got married on your cake, drank themselves silly, slipped through the icing and torched the

Both items: Lakeland Plastics Limited, Alexandra Buildings, Windemere, Cumbria, LA23 1BQ (015394 88100)





HE INDEPENDENT

weet Douglasre investigates...7

John Windsor reports on this month's auctions and antique fairs pot the Japanese potters account Takahashi Rakusai IV may are consigned to its auctions from about to be appointed Living not be a front-runner but he is 71, so America, Europe and Australia. The estimate: £150 or less might buy them. National Treasures - and earn a tidy sum. Pots and bowls made by favourites for the coveted box has an estimate of £750-£900. title are in Bonhams' contemporary ceramics sale, Wednesday and Thurs-

day, 13 and 14 November (6pm). As soon as a potter is elevated to National Treasure status by the Japanese government, his work shoots up in value. Japanese collectors, unsatisfied by mere aesthetics, have always hankered after official stamps of approval and LNT is the most prestigious of all.

You could have bought a pot by Tatsuzo Shimaoka for as little as £300, before he became a National Treasure this year. At Bonhams in June, a stoneware bottle vase of his fetched a record £1,725.

Will Koike Sboko become the first female LNT? One of her enchanting. sbell-like bowls is estimated to fetch £700-£1,000. Does Wakao Toshisada's family of hereditary potters give him a bead start towards the title? The estimate of £1.600-£2,000 on his ovoid, blue-grey bowl with three looped feet suggests it may. Why not have a flutter on Kotsuke Kaneshige's stoneware vessel, estimate £600-£900? His father

was a Living National Treasure. Followers of form should note that the Metropolitan Museum of New York has bought work by Miyashita Zenji. His four-sided stoneware vase is estimated to sell for £900-£1,200.

If you want a quick kill rather than

the end of the race must be in sight. His flower vase with inscribed wooden

Treasures from Japan

Insiders will whisper to you that one Japanese potter who never moved from the starting-gate is celebrated as one of the 20th century's greatest. The irascible Kitaoji Rosanjin refused Liviog National Treasure status in 1955, meensed that one of his pupils, Toyozo Arakawa, had been awarded it before him. Rosanjin's life could be considered unfortunate. His putative father, a Shinto priest, committed suireal father was a lowly shrine worker who cremated the dead. Rosanjin's disgraced mother abandoned him and of the Wyyan Myerson collection of the Was brought up by a policeman. he was brought up by a policeman, who went mad and also committed suicide. His three marriages and two love-affairs each lasted less than a

year. He died in 1959. His pupil Arakawa's deep, round dish is estimated to fetch £1,800-£2,500. Rosaniin would be pleased to find that his own stoneware dish with angry-looking stripes has a higher estimate: £2,800-£3,500. The best-known LNT, Shoji Hamada (1894-1978), who helped Bernard Leach to set up his pottery in St Ives in the early Twenties. is represented by nine pieces ranging in estimate from £200-£300 for a 7in stoneware plate to £3,500-£4,500 for

a. nineth-century-style bowl. Bonhams is the world centre of the a long-term investment, take age into contemporary ceramics market. Pots pieces, including a cased Regency

bidding may be tough, but you can bet it will get tougher m years to come.

Most households have a few mysterious-looking old utensils tucked away at the back of the kitchen cutlery drawer: a bone-handled, two-pronged fork, perhaps, or a fish knife with a mother-of-pearl handle.

Old eating utensils (the term dis-tinguishes them from more recent silver flatware) have come into their own as collectables this year with the publication of two guidebooks. At Christory Museum in Cape Town.
Part of the fascination of old cutlery

lies in knowing that eating was once a messy business. Until the second half of the 17th century, forks were used mainly for skewering meat on the serving dish. The mid-18th century brought a third prong. Forks were still no good for peas - but by then knife tips were spatulate and pea-friendly, instead of pointed. Until the mid-17th century, dinner guests were expected to bring their own eating ntensils.

An inscribed, antier-handled steel knife and two-pronged fork of about 1760, reputedly a gift to Bonnie Prince Charlie, are estimated to fetch £300-£500. Six 19th-century bone-handled

If you use old steel eating mensils, as some neo-Georgians do, you will find that they taste bitter. Britain's only dedicated dealer in old cutlery,

Bill Brown of 153 Portobello Road, declares: "I'm a stainless man myself." Pre-17th-century cutlery used to be rare, he says, until metal detector enthusiasts started uncarthing it. At Covent Garden's Monday morn-

ing market, where more and more old eating utensils are appearing, antiqmities dealer Nigel Mills offers a 5in bronze Roman spoon for £30. I paid £5 to Stephanie Hine, an occasional trader there, for an elegant 9in early Victorian three-pronged pickle fork with barley-twist ivory bandle.

Guidebooks: The Sheffield Knife Book: A History and Collectors' Guide by Geoffrey Tweedale (Interleof Productions, £25): Table Knives and Forks' by Simon Moore (Shire Album 320, £2.25). Bill Brown (0181-650 3933). Nigel Mills (0181-504 2569), Stephanie Hine (0181-549 1945).

Fairs: Olympia Fine Art and Antiques, 13-19 November: 200 stonds, prices £50-£100,000, with on exhibition of 10th-18th-century Chinese ceramics. National Hall, Olympia, Hammersmith Road, London W14 (0171-244 2219).

Entry including catalogue, £10. London Photograph Fair: Saturday 16 November (11am-5pm), Bonnington WCI. Entry £1.50 (01865-735119).

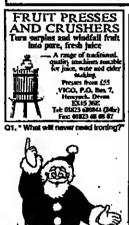


Old eating utensils are increasingly collectible, as this week's big Christie's sale shows

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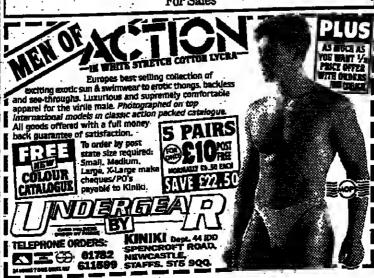
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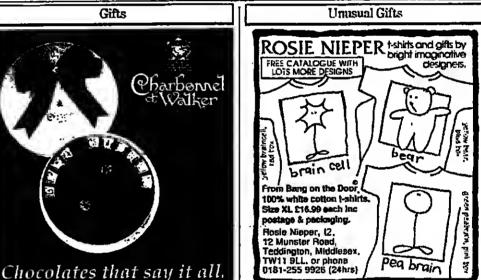


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of Old Bond Street, London, is offering a special box of hand-made chocolates every Sunday until 8th December in our Christmas Gift Guide Competition. Every week the first correct postcard pulled out of the Christmas sack will win the special prize.

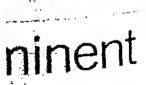
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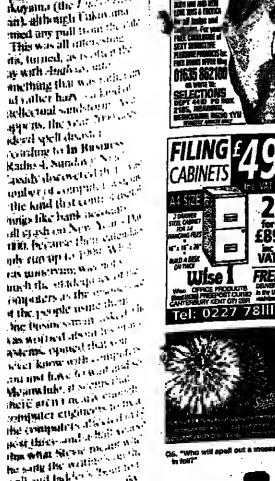
Closing date for Competition No. 3 is Wednesday, 6th November 1996.



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Once cathedral shops just sold postcards...

By Tony Kelly

re you old-fashioned enough to remember when people went to cathedrals to pray - or, at least, to admire the architecture? When commercialism was frowned upon and the only hint of it was a stall at the hack selling posteards and religious books?

Not any more. Nowadays the church, like everyone else, speaks the language of the marketplace. "Church shops are attractive retail outlets these days, good places to but presents and not just religious items." sour core

to buy presents and not just religious items," says Car-olyne Baines, secretary of the Cathedral and Church Shops Association, whose Cathedral Show in Newquay, Cornwall on 6 November is expected to attract 50 trade stands and 100 shop managers. Along with the publishers and the makers of church candles will be companies

selling everything from glassware to confectionery.

Confectionery? "We've exhibited at the Cathedral Show for the past three years and seen a growth in husiness as a result," says Katherine Ebbs of Personalized Products in Hampshire, who supply own-label chocolates to Norwich. Winchester and St Paul's among others. "All tourist facilities, including cathedrals, are becoming more aware of the value of gift shops. People want to take something away from their visit and cathedrals need money like everyone else."

But what does chocolate have to do with a cathedral?

The answer is that anything will do so long as it has the magic words on the wrapper. Last week I popped into my two local cathedrals to see what was on offer. At Peterborough, one shop sells religious books, another souvenirs. In the latter you can huy Peterborough Cathedral wine for £4.75 a bottle; cut-glass engraved decanters, £100; dusters, oven gloves, T-shirts and tea towels, all bearing the cathedral's picture; or teddy bears, "found at Peterborough Cathedral", for £1.85. There are pencils and key-rings and plastic models of monks. Oh, and CDs of church music as well.

Down the road at Ely, the heritage industry is in full swing - lavender and pot-pourri, shortbread, clotted cream fudge, most of it not even pretending to have an Ely or a church connection. You could easily be in Past

Liy or a church connection. You could easily be in Past Times or a National Trust gift shop. There are things you never knew you needed, like a ceramic hunny dispensing cotton wool (cotton wool not included, £2.90). Look carefully, though, and you just might find a treat. I picked up a beautifully hand-turned candle-holder, created out of ancient oak salvaged during cathedral restorations, for just £3.95.

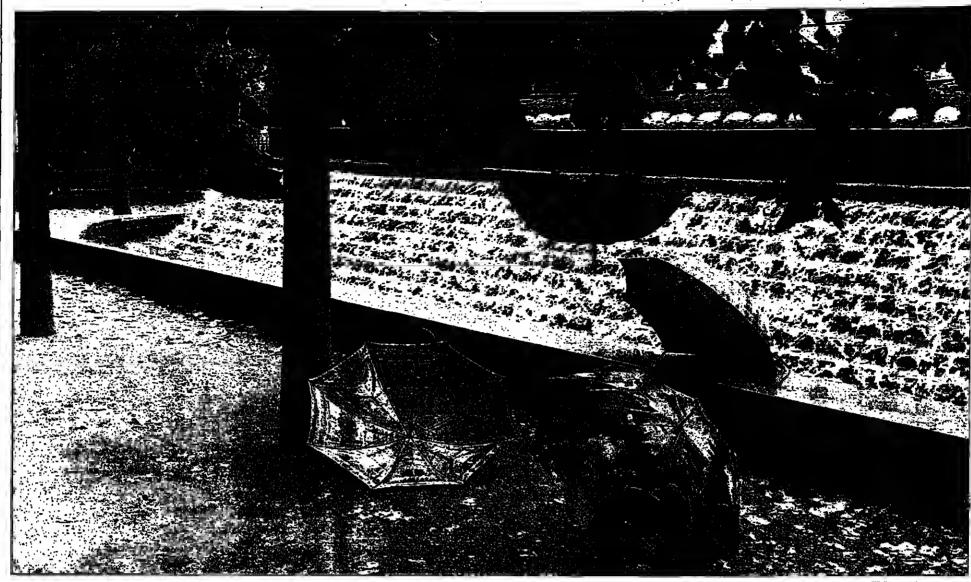
Elv. in common with around half of the country's

Ely, in common with around half of the country's cathedrals, opens its shop on Sundays. The Church of England has no official policy on this, leaving it to the discretion of each individual Dean and Chapter. So Canterbury does, hut St Paul's doesn't; Durham doesn't

Hang on a moment. Isn't the Church supposed to be against Sunday shopping? "Tourists come on Sundays, and want to buy mementoes of their visit," says Canon Dennis Green, Vice Dean at Ely. "We have always opened on Sundays, even before the legislation. You can't impose a Christian ethic on non-Christians who wouldn't understand." Or, as someone else put it to me more hluntly, when Sunday is the most popular day to visit, commercial necessity dictates. In the battle between God and Mammon, it seems, God has his work cut out.

Six of the best umbrellas

The rainy season is upon us again and the ultimate investment has to be a good umbrella. The cheap brolly you were forced to buy from the market has spokes poking through everywhere after its debut in a torrential downpour. We end up making do because it hardly ever rains, does it? Get smart, choose from our selection of luxury brollies - and come out of the rain for good



PHOTOGRAPHER: TONY BUCKINGHAM, STYLIST: HOLLY DAVIES

Rose garden petal shape umhrelia, £22.99 Comes in loads of different prints including pansies and autumn leaves. For those who appreciate the greener things in life. The Victoria Gate Shop, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Surrey (enquiries, 0181-332 5000; mail order, 0181-332 5170).

2 Gauguin print umhrella, £25 This is a really nice umbrella to use; it has an automatic up hutton which you re-press to close. Art lovers will recognise instantly the distinctive use of hright colour from Gauguin's Tahitian-inspired work, From John Lewis, Oxford Street, London W1 (0171-629 7711).

3 Purple parasol with frill, £135 This is a beautifully hand-crafted umhrella made with royal warranty. The shape is traditional Victorian, Think Mary Poppins and hutton-up boots. Available from Swaine Adney and Brigg, 10 Old Bond Street, London W1 (0171-409 7277).

A Black umbrella with Lyellow and green architectural print, £55 Brighten up grey days with this printed brolly. Classical in shape and design, a good excuse to look onwards and upwards. Available from The Conran Shop, Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 (0171-589 7401). 5 Mulberry check umbrella Swith plaited leather handle, £125 A traditional style umhrella from a classic British company. Costly hut these are investment pieces with a good life expectancy. Available from Mulberry, 41-41 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-491 3900).

6 Liberty grey burham print umbrella, £55 A hohemian-ooking umhrella to gc with the season's hot miss-matched look. Other numerous traditional prints and patterns available from one of England's oldest department stores. Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 (0171-734 1234)

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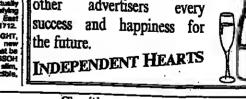
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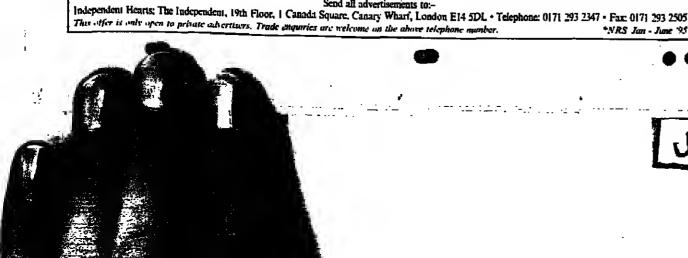


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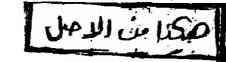


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BBC 1

7.30 The Flying Doctors (R) (S) (1768086). *
8.15.20 Steps to Better Management (S) (3060661).
8.30 Breakfast with Frost. England cricket captain
Mike Atherion is among the early risers (92241).
9.30 The Big Question. Mark Lawson talks to Max Clifford about the meaning of life (S) (1089965).

9.45 First Light (S) (302883).

THE INDEPENDENT • SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER 1996

10.15 See Hear! (S) (394864). 10.45 Deutsch Plus (S) (3290951). + 11.00 The Eleventh Hour (S) (73357).

12.00 CountryFile (Including Weather for the Week Ahead) (S) (34883). 12.30 On the Record (53609). *

1.30 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (5609222). *
2.55 Wildlife on One. David Attenborough meets some Thomson's gazelles (R) (S) (6475116). *
3.25 The Bookworm. Griff Rhys Jones travels to Scotland to discover Sherlock Holmes's Scottish roots (S) (2759628). *

3.55 The Clothes Show. Tim Vincent consults five men's-fashions editors to come up with five different winter wardrobes. Plus, what Brighton Clubbers wear for a night out (S) (8723222).*
4.20 People's Century. Chronicles the early days of television. Last in series (S) (6439425). *

18levision, Last in senes (S) (6439425). *
5.15 News, Weather (5401951). *
5.35 Regional News (936661).
5.40 Songs of Praise. From Swansea (S) (213048). *
6.15 Antiques Roadshow. Valuations from Ludlow in Shropshira (S) (100135). *

7.00 Auntie's All-Time Greats. (TV60) Michael Parkinson hosts a "star-studded gala" to celebrate the fact that this weekend, 60 years ago, the BBC kick-started the world's first fully-fledged TV broadcasting corporation (S) (72048222). *
9.05 News, Regional News and Weather (808715). *

9.25 Rhodes. 8/8. Last in the BBC's epic series finds Rhodes attempting to rebuild his political career against the backdrop of the Boer War (749135). 10.20 Clive Anderson Ali Talk. Mikhail Gorbachev and

Bob Hoskins are the guests (5) (137208). *

10.55 Everyman. (TV60). A look back at the history of religious programmes on television, with actor Stephen Tompkinson (S) (858203). * 11.45 Accused. New drama series in which each

epsiode follows a single case in a magistrate's court. First up, a woman charged with possession of heroin (SJ 1487999), * 12.15 Lord of the Flies (Harry Hook 1990 UK). Decent but uninspired adaptation of the classic William Golding novel, swapping English public school boys for American military cadets, Balthazar Getty leads the cast (S)

(380162), 1 1,35 Weather (1559742), To 1.40am.

Sunday television and radio

BBC₂

7.30 Children's BBC: Joe 90. 7.55 Playdays. 8.15 Bitsa. 8.30 Jackanory Gold. 8.50 X Men. 9.10 Eek the Cat. 9.20 The fisy Bitsy Spider. 9.45 The Mask. 10.10 Ship to Shore. 10.40 Grange Hill. 11.00 The Demon Headmaster. 11.30 Small

11.45 Shooting Stars. From Friday, with guests
Gabrielle, Dercus Howe, Rose Merie and Richard
Whiteley (S) (R) (380661). *

12.15 The Sunday Show. Donna McPhail hosts the

Sunday brunch beano (S) (2131048). 1.00 The O Zone (S) (75715). 1.30 Around Westminster (S) (69067). 2.00 Trapeze | Carol Reed 1956 US). A crippled trapeze artist, still famous for his "triple", is persuaded by a budding aerialist to teach him the

stunt (249390). * 3.40 Straight at the OK Corral (John Sturges 1957 US). Highly-regarded western recounting the legendary friendship between gumighter Doc Holliday and well-respected lawman Marshall

Wyatt Earp, leading up to the infamous showdown at Tombstone (914339). * 5.40 The Natural World. The success story that is the 5.40 The Natural World. The success sury that is the beetle, and how they are apparently helping us by providing new medicines (Followed by Heading South, Weather) (S) (152338).
6.35 Star Trek: Voyager (S) (704135).
7.20 American Visions. See Preview, p32 (S) (E115121).

(511512). * 8.20 The Money Programme. Investigating predictions that at midnight on 31 December 1999, computer software around the world will crash,

due to the timing in most computers not being able to switch digits to the year 2000 (925512).

9.00 Coogan's Run. Steve Coogan plays handyman Ernest Moss, who takes on a gang of shifty cowboy developers from London (R) (S) (5999). 9:30 Where's Elvis This Week? Martin Clunes, David Baddiel, Nora Ephron and Nathan Lane are this week's guests in the show which tries to explain Americans and the English to each other (S)

(40932) 10.00 MM Mad Dog and Glory (John McNaughton 1993 US). See The Big Picture, p32 (S)

(28135). * 11.30 Girls in Prison Clohn McNaughton 1994 US). The Young and the Reckless season continues with an enjoyable rehash of that 1950s staple – girls behind bars (Followed by Weatherview) (S) (281932). To 12.55am.

2.00 The Learning Zone: FETV Collectables: Blooming Bellamy (90891). 4.00 Languages: Sueños – World Spanish (90075), 5.00 Business and Work (47097). To 6.00am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 The Sunday Review 6.30 News, Sport and Weather, 7.00 The Sunday Programme

8.00 Dragon Flyz. Animation (9663970).
8.25 Disney Club. (S) (14559357).
10.15 Link. Disabled magazine (1360357).
10.30 Sunday Live. Lord St John of Fawsley, the high profile of Catholics in the UK today, Roger Whittaker reveals how he came to terms with the deaths of his parents, and how five churches in Norfolk have declared independence from the

Church of England, including Morning Worship from De Montfort Hall, Lecester. (5) (87680).

12.30 Crosstalk (Followed by LWT Weather) (57222).

1.00 News and Weather (86991086). *

1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (5) (1868222).

2.00 Carroon Time (46059406).

2.05 Wer and Remembrance (R) (458951).

4.00 GIBS Guns of the Magnificent Seven (Paul Wendkos 1969 US). Second sequel to The Magnificent Seven, with only George Kennedy left from the original septet (2067).

6.00 Dec

6.00 Des Res. Ulrika Jonsson and more unusual homes, including a flat that looks 4,000 years old.

and a country retreat in central London (19).
6.30 Local News, Weather (2790-48).
6.45 News and Weather (292999).
7.00 One in a Million (S) (3932).
7.30 Heartheat. Aidensfield hosts a quoits match and Nick meets Jo's parents (S) (98796).

8.30 You've Been Framed! (S) (1715). *
9.00 London's Burning (S) (3336). *
10.00 Sometime, Never. Zzzitcom staming "Philadelphia

Cheese girls" Sara Crowe and Ann Bryson as two disappointed thirtysomethings (SJ (20680), * 10.30 News and Weather (500864). * 10.45 The South Bank Show. Melvyn Bragg presents a profile of Welsh baritone Bryn Terfel, who is apparently poised to become the best-known

opera singer since Pavarotti (S) (447715). *
11.45 Theatreland. The Hampstead production of John Osborne's The Entertainer and Peepolykus's Let the Donkey Go (S) (476067).

12.15 The Practice. Fly-on-the-wall documentary series

about an inner-city doctors' surgery (S) (71013).

12.45 Murder, She Wrote. Jessica attends the funeral of an old friend in Wyoming... (R) (709926).

1.45 INN Sparks: The Price of Passion (Richard Colla

1989 US), Serial-killer grief for smalltown mayor Victoria Principal (858810). 3.35 Not Fade Away, Deepak Verma – aka Sanjay in EastEnders – introduces his record collection (R) (S) (2224471). 4.35 Flux (R) (S) (8292926).

5.30 News (51655). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

7.15 Ric (59970).

7.45 Biker Mice from Mars (4429405). 8.10 Earthwarm Jim (4474777). 8.35 Street Sharks (6265864).

9.00 Insektors (S) (6663777). 9.20 Saved by the Bell (R) (1896512). * 9.45 Sister Sister (S) (395593). 10.15 Wise Up (S) (387574).

10.45 Hollyoeks Ornelbus (S) (5150319). *
11.40 The Wattons, John is accused of stealing a widow's silver collection. Surely not (2450338). 12,40 Rookies (S) (7507390).

1.15 Football Italia, Juventus v Napoli (51442338),
3.30 The Gallery (S) (3097864).
3.45 The Sword of Monte Cristo (Maurice Geraghty 1951 US). Big George Montgomery saves Napoleon III from a treacherous minister and hunts treasure in this ho-hum costume adventure (Theo Meurs and Maisthark (281128).

(Then News and Weather) (381135). "

5.20 ENEST River of No Return (Otto Preminger 1954
US). Preminger's only western is not brilliant, but it does contain two built-in bonuses: Manlyn Monroe and Robert Mitchum (56944951). "

7.00 Equinor. Scientists' attempts to discover what causes so-called earthlights, onght spots in the

sky seen in Mexico, Norway and the Australian Outback (R) (S) (2154). 8.00 Nothing But the Truth (S) (8574). 9.00 Leaving Home. Arnold Schoenberg. Richard Strauss, Pierre Boulez and Karlheinz Stockhausen illustrate Simon Rattle's argument that the old and

the new were batting for supremacy at the close of World War II (S) (8.338), *

10.00 Fitti Good Morning, Vietnam (Barry Levinson 1987 US). Robin Williams stars as a fast-talking US Army DJ in 1965 Saigon Very loosely based on real-life disc jockey Adrian Cronauer, Williams's professional of the thing ben. The background performance is the thing here. The background story is bunkum (40434512). * 12.20 Gruppen. Performance of Stockhausen's

innovative work for three orchestras, with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra ensemble, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle (\$) (4327487). 12.50 Partners. American sitcom based in a law firm (S)

1.20 HELL Lonely Woman Seeks Compan (Vyacheslav Krishtofovich 1987 USSR). Bored thirtysomething Irina Kupchenko places a lonely hearts advert - and is shocked to find the only

reply comes from a drunken circus acrobat,
Aleksandr Zbruyev (412487).

3.00 EIEE The Marauders (George Archainbaud 1947
US). Hopalong Cassidy suffers outlaw grief, With
William Boyd (80100), To 4,10am.

ITV/Regions

MILE As Landon except 2.00pm Word of Calling (911)(1, 2.30 Calling in the Casting (901) 3.00 Fine: The lina of the Incept bit Mile (4044/970) 4.45 fore Chamble (1, 315)(2) 5.45 fore Chamble (1, 315)(2) 11.45 Fine Foreign (1, 315)(2) 11.45 Fine Foreign (1, 315)(2) 11.45 Fine Foreign (1, 315)(2) 11.35 Fine Fore

CHINEL 3 JOHN EAST-PRESSEE

As Landon member 12,30 pm. Character 145-487251 Wats. Gods on Sandan (154-8) 17: 12:00 Mar-de, 5te Witte 243-47751 2:55 Piller Tre Amsterna (1895-7311) 5:155-61 (logs and those (1655-742)) 7:35 Chierman 3 Mr. Deceases (1507-19) (love) 16 (logs and 154-951) 11:45 A. Wittens (1870-1870) (logs and 154-951) 11:45 A. Wittens (1870-1870) (logs and 154-951) 11:45 (logs and

CHIRD.

As Landon except: 12.30pm 14e Line (1705, 191e; 2.00)

Your Shout 97.00, 2.30 Films Over Upon Alley (1965, 191e)

4.15 D. Camm (1755, 170; 5.15 biotyce) (281) 19.45 for our (285, 191e)

Browning (1755, 170; 5.15 biotyce) (281) 19.45 for our (285, 191e) (285, 191e)

Browning (1768, 191e) (285, 191e) (285, 191e)

S. John Alam Live (1768, 191e)

htt Landon mangh: 12.25pm (km2 West Match Part (339380) Wales Secret Sanda (139728) 2.00 Hert Balld Box (23664) Wales Secret Sanda (139728) 2.00 Hert Balld Box (23664) Wales West Agenda (1717) 2.30 Mars Partgerson Box (2000 Errorentset (10713) 1.12 Deed Touring Cars (340066) Wales West (West (35006) 1.20 Hert Touring Cars (34006) 4.20 Hert Carbon (154753) 4.45 Wales (2000 1.20 Hert (15476) 4.20 Hert Carbon (15476) 4.35 Wales (2000 1.20 Hert (15476) 4.30 Hert (15476) 4.35 Wales (2000 1.20 Hert (15476) 4.30 Hert

(1990)

As London except: 12:30pm * Days (1557-2xt) 2:00 The Per (5459-552) 2:20 The Lesting (1450-231)* 2:25 Days with Dumber (3767-703) 2:35 Chartening of the Lating (1495-52) 2:35 Films The Dam Harger (1495-33)* 5:40 Antiques Teal (967-45) 6:10 The Vallage (1550-5)* 11:45 Films Teal-siden Nights (1457-96) 1:35am Films (

#ESTORMEN # 12.25pm Westered Match, J.3-7-20;** 2.00 Mesternative Update 1576711151 2.25 Tarte of Mr. Lét 1576742031, 2.55 Sunday Best 16935121 3.25 Tarte of Mr. Lét 1576742031, 2.55 Sunday Best 16935121 3.25 Tarte of Mr. Lét 1576742031, 2.55 Sunday Best 16935125 3.25 Tarte of Mr. Lét 1576742031, 2.55 Tarte of Mr. Lét 1576743 2.55 Sunday Best 1

540
As C4 secopt: 6.20am Bit: (5119.048) 12,40pm Roamd a Roamd (45.58631.1.20 form fuma: (*5.5635) 2,10 RAP (57693338) 2,35 Tab About Websi (18.7135) 3,00 formers (7697374) 3,00 formers (7697374) 5,05 Mondecto (7887796) 5,35 Fabrel v Card (797574) 5,05 Mondecto (7887796) 5,35 Fabrel v Card (79756374) 7,30 Decimai Card (797674) 9,20 Penas (6953384) 9,30 formers (7697676) 10,00 Fabrel (6953384) 9,30 formers (7697676) 11,55 former (4767679) 9,27 Fabrel (7697676) 11,55 former (4767679) 12,55-1,40am form-Materia (7874579)

Radio

Radio 1

675-99.80tr FM 7,00am Kevin Greening 10,00 Dave Pearce 2,00 Trevor Nelson's Fitrythm Nation 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Punk Fiction 8.00 John Peel 10.00 Street Maconie 12.00 Andy Kershaw 2.00 Claire Stargess 4.00-6.30am Cive

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs 11.00 Wright's Sunday Love Sories 1,100
Parkinson's Sunday Supplement 1,00
Desmond Carrington 3,00 Berny
Green 4,00 Singing in Britain with Aled
Jones 4,30 Sing Something Simple
5,00 Parm Ayres 7,00 High Scully
8,30 Sunday Half Hour 9,00 Alan Kelth 10,00 The David Jacobs Coffection

11.00 And Here's One I Prepared Ear-lier, See Choice, above. 12.05 Sieve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester Radio 3 190.2-92-4MIZ FAD 7.00am Sacred and Profane. 8.50 Choice of Truee. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning. 12.15 Music Matters. 1.00 Great French Dishes. (7/8).

1.25 The Sunday Concert. Mozart: Oversure: The Magic Flute. Musgrave: Songs for a Winter's Evening, Schubert: Symphony No 9

2.50 Spirit of the Age. 3.50 Brendel's Beethoven. Beethoven: Sonatass in A flat, Op 26; in E flat, Op 27 No 1; in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 2; in F, Op 54; in C, Op 53.



6.30 Schubert. The song-cycle Winter

7.45 Choir Works. ers the world of speech.

Choice

Valerie Singleton (left) harks back to the days when she was a heartthrob for small boys across the nation in And Here's One I Prepared Earlier (11pm R2), a look at the golden days of

the Present, John Theocharis trav-les to Cairo to meet its greatest w-ing novelist, Nagolo Mahfouz, winner of the 1988 Nobel Prize for

9.55 Drama Now. Barking, In Tony Ramsay's surreal drama, a dog eats the tongue of a heretic and discov-

children's television.

ers the world of speech.

11.30 Jean Jenkins: A Musical
Legacy. (1/2).

12.00 Record Review: Gordon
Stawart surveys available recordings of songs by Oupard. Plus
John Deathridge and Edward
Seckerson on new releases of Beethoven and Bruckner, includ-ing Beethoven overtures from chestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique conducted by John

6.00am News Briefing. 6.10 Something Unde 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers.

7.15 On Your Perm. 8.55 Weather

Nikolaus Harnoncourt and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Choral Fantasy from the Monteverdi Choir and the Or-1.15 Through the Night.

7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. 8.55 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.10 Sunday Papers.
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Morning Service.
10.15 The Archers. Omnibus editor.
11.15 Mediumwawa.
11.45 New Latinos. Peru. Clare

Hampson meets a British couple who have made their home in Peru. 12.15 Desert Island Discs. With Chris

12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 Gardeners' Question Time. 2.30 Classic Serial: Women in Love. By D H Lawrence, Water Games, Gudrun is excited by Gerald's brutality, while Ursula finds herself

being drawn to Rupert. (2/4).

4.15 Analysis. 5.00 News; Gosting on Espena, La Sagrada Familia. Ray Gosting exarrives the strength of the family in an increasingly secular Spein. 5.30 Poetry Please! 5.50 Shipping Forecast.

5.55 Weather, 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 In Business. 7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Tales from the Bog End Road. By Jenny

McDade. 7.30 Reading Aloud. The Way We Are. By Margaret Visser. 8.00 (FM) The Natural History Pro-

gramme. 8.00 (LW) Deutsch Plus. 8.30 (LW) Suence - World Spanish 1. 8.30 (FW) A History of Reeding in Five Volumes. (2/5). 9,00 (FM) The Board Game 9.00 (LW) Suenos - World Spanish 9.15 (UW) Francophonie.

9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth. 9.45 (LW) Chansons. (5/5). 10.15 All in the Mind. 10,45 Breakaway. 11,15 in Committee 11.15 in Committee.
11.45 Seeds of Faith. (1/3).
12.00 News.
12.20 Bells on Sunday.
12.30 The Late Story: Hurst of Hurstcotte. By E Nesbit.
12.48 Shipping Forecast.
1.00-6.00am As World Service.

683,309kb mm 6,05am Brief Lives 6,30 Brian Hayes 9,05 Sunday with Mair 11,35 Special Assignment 12,05 Big Byte 12,30 Crime Desk 12,55 Sunday Sport 6,05 Sportscall 7,00 News Edita 7,35 You Cannot Be Serious 8.35 Sex Lives 9.00 Dailyn Worldwide 10.05 Acid Test 10.35 Out This Week 11.00 Night Edra 11.35 Sports America X5 Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM

0000-1019Wt HO 12.00 Celebrily Choice. 1.00 Alan Mann. 3.00 Mesterclass. 4.00 Mel Cooper. 6.00 A Question of Classics. 7.00 Countdown Top 10. 8.00 Opera. 10.30 Howard's Week. 12.00 Andre Leon, 4.00-5.00am Mark Griffiths.

0.215, 1197-1260mb (err 105.800b Au) 5.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Gra-ham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home 5.00

Virgin Radio

Lynn Parsons 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Randall Lee Rose World Service **机型线型**D 1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 Seeing Stars 1.45 On the Move 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 A Oreen Histo-

ry of the Planet 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Off the Shelt: Cause Celeb 4.45

Country Style 5.00 Newsday 5.30-6.00am Europe Today

Satellite

(3782742). *

6.00am Hour of Power (25574), 7.00 Undun (87574), 9.00 Geraldo (80999), 10.00 Yeung Indiana Jones (90169), 11.00 Yeung Indiana Jones (90169), 11.30 Real TV (80208), 12.00 WWF (94777), 1.00 SWEGER (129751 a.D.) Lances to

7,00 Beverly Hills 90210 (24932). 8,00 The X Files Re-Opened (33690). 9,00 Springhal (43067), 11,00 Manual Hunter (58988), 12,00 60 Minutes (39162), 1,00 Civil Wars (27384). 2,00-6,00am Hit Mix Long Play

(55655). rose Place (4199703), 9.00 Profit (7857837), 10.00 Poltergeist: The

and the Gladistors (1954) (8117520) 2.00-5.00am Hit Mix (7162471). STATE MONES 5.00am At Long Last Love (1975) (61883). 8.00 Eleven Hamowhouse (1974) (65864). 10.00 She Led Two Lives (1995) (19086). 12.00 The Les

(315655), 3.00 Out of the Body (1988) (36704), 4.30-6.00am She Led Two Lives (1995) (59907). MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00mm The Brasher Dubloon (1947) (69425), 8.00 The Secret of the Incas

(1954) (63-206). 10.00 Margie (1946) (17628). 12.00 Tension at Table Rock (1956) (86357). 2.00 Carmel In Costa Rica (1947) (45425), 4.00 Far from Home (1994) (2898), 6.00 Look Who's Talking Now (1993) (25661). B.00 Timecop (1994) (301628), 11.40 The Movie Show, (123999), 12.10 Joy Luck Club (1993) (89592487), 2.30 L'Enter (1994) (712029), 4.15-6.00am

The Crude Oass (1995) (88839). SAL MOMES COID 11.00am Suftwan's Travels (1941) (67113951), 12.35 The Man with the Gun (1955) (51237680), 2.00 Born Yesterday | 1950) (2974795), 4.00 The Last American Hero (1973) (2614628), 6.00 Starman (1984) (2554932), 8.00 Hell Is for Heroes (1962) (2966777), 10.00 Road

House (1989) (9455690), 12,00 At Close Range (1986) (8475839), 1,55 All Night Long (1981) (52996075). 3.25-5.25am Only Angels Have Wings (1939) (4916742). SKY SPORTS 1 7.00am Watersports World (48883).

7.00am Soccer Extra (5103135).

11.00 Watersports World (669628). 12.00 Suring (1164661), 1.00 Sailing (6667116). 1.30 Goil (1184425). 2.00 Golf (4351574). 4.00 Golf (2662628), 6.00 Watersports (1160845), 7.00 Spanish Footbal (6688609), 9.00 Football (4375154), 11.00 Olympic Century (6677593). 12.00-1.00am Superbikes 1995 SMY SPORTS 1

ho

12.00noon Socret (73856512), 3.00 12:00 nois 30:327/30:32/2/, 3:00 toots Unlimited (36688609), 6:00 Drag Racing (10179512), 6:30 Sport Special (10160864), 7:00 Golf (49460690), 2006 (494606900), 2006 (494606900), 2006 (494606900), 2006 (494606900), 2006 (494606900), 2006 (494606000), 2006 (4946 9.00 Golf (38083951), 11.00 Golf (50629116). 11.30-12.00midnight Drag Racing (99190390). LIVETY

6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spenish Archer 7.30 Mind and Body 8.00 The Why Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Fate and Fortune 9.30 The Fashion Show 10.00 Revelations The Fashion Show 10.00 Revelations 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Carmpus Capers 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Revelations 12.30 Why Files 1.00 Looking for Love 1.30 Fate and Fortune 2.00 The Fashion Show 2.30 Mind and Body 3.00 Canary Wharf 4.30 Gaif's Campus Capers 5.00 Revelations 5.30 Looking for Love 6.00 Enc's Monster Sport 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Revelations 8.00 Bushids 9.03 Eva's Seventies Pop Show 9.30 9.03 Eva's Seventies Pop Show 9.30 Looking for Love 10.03 Enc's Monster Sport Show 11.03 Fate and Fortune

11.30 The Sex Show 12.00-6.00am Night-Time Programmes

3♠. South hid 4♥, and all passed.

Any reflections on the bidding!

the cards lie, a possible make if the

accurate. But the play is the thing.

the seven, and declarer shrewdly

with his jack, eashed the ace and

finessed 49. When this drew the

ace it was all over. South's losing

Well, what was the hanging

fourth highest and applying the

have won and West could have

switched to diamonds while his

partner still controlled the clubs.

Then at least East-West would have

Rule of Eleven, East should have

been able to place his partner with

◆0.10.8.7.(x). In other words, had he followed with +2 +7 would still

offence? By trusting the lead to be

winning club.

diamond eventually going away on a

played low from dummy. East won

West led his fourth highest spade.

defence was anything less than

With the known double fit. West should have pushed on to 44. This was always likely to be cheap and, as

You may have missed... **Chess** William Hartston

5.00-6.00am Sequence.



SEE を受ける者 コスト 10 米で

Moon tises long once each

whit and hell that the

week Title advantage

ik for the Miles were and

of the hars glow or the of

billiam state that make an

white alcards of their com-

aded with the salti of

Composed by Nikotai Kralin in 1980, this is one of the most surprising of all positions with only kings and pawns on the board. It is White to play and draw.

With the pawn on b2 about to promote, the only hope is to set up a stalemate with g4 and h4, but the obvious 1.g4 h1=Q 2.h4 loses to 2...Qel 3.a7 Qxh4+ 4.Kxh4 Kxa7 with an easy win for Black. So let's get rid of the a-pawn first: La7! Kxa7 2.g4 and now .b1=Q 3.h4 forces a draw, whatever

Black plays it is stalemate. But what if Black plays 2...b1=N! instead of promoting to a queen. Then 3.h4 Nc3! wins for him. And that's where the clever part comes. White plays 3.h3!! when Black finds himself in a surprising zugzwang. The main line now continues 3...Nc3 4.h4! Kb7 5.dxc3 d2 6.c4 d1=Q 7.c5 Qd4 8.cxd4 e3

9.d5 e2 10.d6! (10.dxc6+? loses to 10...Kc8!

11.c7 e1=Q) 10...e1=N! 11...7 N...227 promoting his own pawn to a queen.) 12.d8=N+! (This is why the king had to be tured out of a7 at move four) 12 Kc8 13.Ne6 Nf4+ 14.Nxf4 exf4 and Black has finally been unable to avoid giving stalemate. A splendid composition.

God, ghosts, golf and other stories from the past week.

God is now receiving e-mail An Israeli Internet company is now operating a service, receiving prayers by e-mail and delivering them to the Wailing Wall. The service is free and available on Virtual Jerusalem's homepage at

http://www.virtual.co.il. All mod cons plus ghost An American lawyer has warned that owners may have to have their houses inspected for ghosts before selling them. In a recent court case in Florida a house sale was declared void on the grounds that the vendors had not informed the purchasers of a supernatural presence.

Haumted pub Restoration work resumed on Britain's oldest pub, "Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem" near Nottingham Castle, after a six-month delay caused by a supposedly cursed model galteon. An exorcism bas

now been performed.

Golfing hazard A 13-year-old Australian boy was attacked by a kangaroo on a golf course. "It was a very unusual occurrence." said a kangaroo expert, whn

probably a male trying to

explained that it was

protect his group of females. Sober in Shanghai Shangai poticemen have been banned from drinking alcohol on duty and from getting drunk at any time. They must also not accept

When they returned in the beach, they found that their Secret Service badges, cash. traveller's cheques, credit cards, jewellery, shoes and socks had been sinlen.

Three FBI agents assigned

a quick swim in the ocean.

10 protect President Clinton

in Florida took the chance of

Barefoot cops

Lamb jam Two thousand sheep blocked Madrid's main roads last Sunday in a campaign to preserve rural pathways.

alcoholic drinks as a gift. concise crossword



ACROSS

Looped pile fabric (5) Greek letter (3) Cordial (4) Recover (8) Myopic (5-7) 10 Skin disease (6) 13 Stick (6) 15 Flowering shrub (12) 19 Still (of water) (8)

20 Birds of prey (4)

21 Cricket single (3) 22 Unclothed (5)

DOWN

14 Fish (7)

17 Consumed (5)

18 Lubricated (5)

Compunction (7) Stories (5) Indicate (5) Artacker (7) Mark of infamy (6) 11 Museum official (7) 12 Without a sense of right and wrong (6)

16 Church instrument (5)

Rubbish (5)

Solution to yesterday's Conclas Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Luke, 4 Bizet (Look busy!), 9 Plead, 10 Ocarina, 11 Audience, 12 Skin, 13 Good Samaritan, 17 Shun, 18 Daffodil, 21 Origani, 22 Alien, 23 Tenon, 24 Noes, DÖWN: 2 Upend, 3 Endless, 4 Boon companion, 5 Zeal, 6 Trinket, 7 Sprang, 8 Gain, 14 Oculist, 15 Refrain, 16 Nytons, 17 Stop. 19 Drive, 20 Warn.

(80208). 12.00 WWF (947777), 1.00 Star Treit (12375), 2.00 Mysterious Is-lend (74512). 3.00 The Boys of Twi-light (80244). 4.00 Great Escapes (9703). 4.30 Real TV (6777). 5.00 Kurg Fu (7864). 6.00 The Simpsons (4870). 6.30 The Simpsons (1222).

7.00pm Xena (1813945), 8.00 Mel Legacy (1844635). 11.00 Seinfeld (1565512). 11.30 Who Do You Do? (1297690). 12.00 Film: Demetrus

Livis (1993) (19089), 12.00 (ne los Boys Tell (1994) (84/15/12), 1.50 Re-nassance Man (1994) (823/49883), 4.00 The Man in the Brown Suit (1988) (43065203), 5.50 Shadow-lands (1993) (60459845), 8.00 She Fought Alone (1995) (39864), 10.00 China Moon (1994) (303036), 11.40 The Saint of Ent Westmenton (1903)

7.00am Watersports World (48883). 8.00 Surfing (49512). 9.00 Boding (77208). 11.00 Goals (22661). 12.00 Formula Three (62203). 1.00 Drag Racing (33777). 1.30 Superbless (81845). 3.00 Live Football. See the Big Match, p32 (7117241). 7.00 Bas-leshall (47970). 9.00 NFL (815845), 12.00-2.00am Busketball (99568).

◆K3 VAK95 O.A.Q +K11094 West East **◆**Q 10874 **◆**AJ92 \circ 10 01632 ¢K 10874 **4083** 4A65 South ♥QJ87643 095

Bridge Alan Hiron

Game all; dealer East

North

"if you are going to make more than one misjudgement in a match, observed East, "it is a good idea to make them on the same hand." 1 suppose that two of his partnership's decisions were defensible, but one

was certainly criminal. East opened 10 and South. surprisingly, passed. West hid 1+ and North doubled. East raised to ended with a plus score.

What is the next item in this series: 21, 35, 33, 23, 13, 24, 25, 26, 1.8, 27, 28, 29, 3.7, ... ?

to tell you what they mean

Your computer may assist

Hint: If these figure do resist

Perplexity

But look not on the screen. A Larousse Desk Reference Encyclopedia will be awarded to the first correct answer opened on 14 November, Entries to: Perplexity,

The Independent, 1 Canada Square,

Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

19 October competition answers Numeracy: 10 Cube Root of a Thousand; 3 Sixty-Degree Angles in an Equitateral Triangle: 32 Degrees Fahrenheit at Which Water Freezes. Literacy: 6 Characters in Search of an Author: 3 Musketeers of Alexandre Dumas; 2 Gentlemen of Verona.

12 Words in the Previous Senience: 7 Letters in lts Last Word; 1 Question Mark at Its End. Winner: Mrs M Wanders (London).

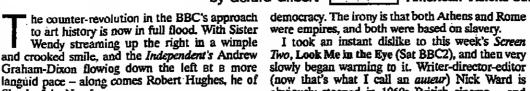


The big picture **Mad Dog and Glory** Sun 10pm BBC2

John McNaughton's extraordinary Henry, Portrait of a Serial Killer really should have been the last word on serial-killer movies. But that was in 1986, and, as we all know now, it wasn't, McNaughton is a gifted, idlosyncratic director and his unusual romantic drama from 1992 casts Robert De Niro as a loser who happens to save the life of a gangster (Bill Murray), and is rewarded with the "gift" of club bartender, Uma Thurman, for a week. But then they fall in love.

Television preview

Recommended viewing this weekend by Gerard Gilbert



Shock of the New fame. Hughes apparently pitched the idea for American Visions (Sun BBC2) to the BBC directly after The Shock of the New 16 years ago, but, as he told Radio Times this week, they weren't interested... "until the BBC woke up to the fact that its MTV-ish treatment of the arts wasn't working, so they dusted off the old dinosaur of the didactic mini-series, and here

As didactic old dinosaurs go, Hughes and his series are good value. Australian without being David Bellamy-ish, Hughes is forceful without getting in the way. His thesis begins with the victorious American revolutionaries eschewing all things British, and embracing the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome. It was meant to be a gesture towards Don't Leave Me This Way Sat 11.25pm C4 American Visions Sun 7.20pm BBC2

TV is Dead, Long Live TV Sat 8.10pm BBC2

Screen Two: Look Me in the Eye Sat 9.30pm BBC2

Fire - Live! Sat 9pm ITV

Video Diaries Sat 10.45pm BBC2

I took an instant dislike to this week's Screen Two, Look Me in the Eye (Sat BBC2), and then very slowly began warming to it. Writer-director-editor (now that's what I call an auteur) Nick Ward is obviously steeped in 1960s British cinems - and Antonioni's Blow-Up in particular, and his film is ravishing to look at, with cold, hard-edged colours, and a pale-skinued, raven-haired heroine (Caroline Catz) of great beauty. What I disliked was the hackoeyed tale of romantic obsession; what I eventually warmed to was Ward's own obvious obsession with the film's real subject - the visual image itself.

were empires, and both were based on slavery.

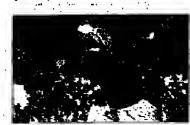
TV is Dead, Long Live TV (Sat BBC2), could more accurately be titled TV is Dead, Long Live the Internet. Comparing the birth pangs of television over 60 years ago with those of the Internet today, this Horizon Special suggests that interactive technology is the way forward. Today's kids don't want to passively consume television in the way of their parents. Just wait till they grow up and get demanding jobs.

The sell on this week's Video Diaries (Sat BBC2) is "Ghostbuster - the Real Thing", and the halfpromise is that veteran psychic investigator, Maurice Grosse, will capture B ghost on his camcorder. I won't spoil the outcome for you, suffice to say that the chipper 76-year-old Grosse, with his slightly bedraggled RAF-style moustache, is a TV natural.

Talking of ghosts, lead singer of 1970s glam rockers The Sweet, Brian Connolly, hardly looks able to finish a sentence, let alone play Butlins, Bognor Regis. Don't Leave Me This Way (Sat C4) catches up with Connolly, a man who had 14 heart attacks in 24 hours

and lived to sing "Wig-Wag Bam" again.

If you happen to be sitting around tonight yearning for vicarious excitement, then Alastair Stewart is your man. Stewart, whose solemn tones are supposed to lend an air of edification to Police, Camera, Action!. performs the same trick for Fire - Live! (Sat ITV), with cameras hanging around fire stations all over the country waiting for some poor sap to fall into a bonfire or set the curtains alight with burning chip fat. It used to be called ambulance chasing.



The big match Newcastle v Middlesbrough Sun 3pm, Sky Sports 1

What a difference B day makes in this case for Faustino Asprilla and his great performance against Ferencyaros. If Asprilla and Ginola are at their best again - and Ravanelli (above) is in shirt-lifting form, this should be a cracker. The North-East derby crowd will do the rest.



Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.05 The Pink Panther Show (R) (2645550). 7.25 News, Weather (2895840). 7.30 Children's 8BC: The Morph Files. 7.40 Speed

Racer. 8.05 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest. 8.30 The New Adventures of Superman (3260918). * 9.15 Live and Kicking. Harry Enfield and TV chef Ainsley Harriott are the guests, and agony uncle Aric Sigman discusses dyslexia (S) (51107181). 12.12 Weather (4430869).

12.15 Grandstand. Introduced by Dougle Douglety 12.20 Football Focus. 1.00 News. 1.10 Registry from Ascot. the 1.20 United House Development Novices' Hurdle Race. 1.30 Formula Ford Festival: 25th anniversary of the prestigious single-seater event. 1.50 Racing from Ascot: the 1.55 Bagshot Handicap Steeple Chase. 2.05 Formula Ford Festival, 2.25 Racing from Ascot: the 2,30 United House Construction Steeple Chase (Handicap). 2.45 Netball: England v Jamaica. Coverage of the 2.45 Netball: England v Jamaica. Coverage of the opening match of a three-test series from the NEC, Birmingham. 4.15 Football Latest. 4.20 TV 60: A look at 60 years of television sport. 4.40 Final 5core (S) (38260647).

5.20 News, Weather (7048208). *
5.30 Regional News and Weather (775717).
5.35 Cartoon (162024).

5.45 Children in Need (S) (168208). *

5.55 Jim Davidson's Generation Game (S) (751024). * 6.55 Noel's House Party (S) (308376).

7.50 The National Lottery Live. Petula Clark and Maureen Lipman Join Bob Monkhouse for this week's live draw (S) (692821). * 8.05 Casualty. An RAF pilot battles with a secret fear. warring grannles contribute to a bonfire accident and a habitual drunk cries wolf once too offge (S)

(687376) * 8.55 News and Sport, Weather (Followed by National Lottery Update) (458734). *

9.15 July A Child's Cry for Help (Sandor Stem 1994 US). Who comes up with titles like these? A committee of speak-your-weight machines?
Anyhow, it accurately reflects this join-the-dots TV
thriller in which hospital doctor Veronica Harnel
(forever public prosecutor Joyce Davengort to Hill Sweet Blues fans) comes to suspect that a six-year old boy in her care is being poisoned by his mother,

Pam Dawber (forever Mindy McConnell to Menk and Mindy fans) (S) (95/3647).

10.45 Match of the Day, Manchester United v Chelsea is the main event (S) (92/37463).

11.55 The Stand Up Show, Father Ted's Ardal O'Hanlon presents comedy acts from Algurray, Simon Peak, Tim Vine and Tommy Tiernay (S) (4086567) 27 Top of the Pops. From Friday (S) (1402951): * 1.00 Woodstock 94. First half a two-part film chronicling the 25th-anniversary rock concert held

In New York Stale in August 1994, Santana, Joe Cocker, Bob Dylan, Peter Gabriel and Crosby, 5tills and Nash are among the players (S) (13406). 2.30 Weather (4998721). 7o 2.35am.

BBC2

7.10 The Saint in London (John Paddy Carstairs 1939 UK/U5). Suave George Sanders took over as Leslie Charteris's super-hero in this tale pitting Simon Templar against currency fraudsters. Blonde bombshell Sally Gray co-stars (3205802).

8.20 Open University: Age and Identity (8864395). * 9.10 Seeing Through Maths (1805260). * 9.35 The Big Picture (9770622).

10.00 Chanakya (S) (4724901). 10.35 Network East (S) (6199192).

11,20 Bollywood or Bust! (\$\) (9642598). 11.50 Lifetimes in a Day (\$\) (6376227).

11.50 Lifetimes in a Day (S) (63/622/).
12.00 Film 96 with Barry Norman (S) (67734).
12.30 Film 96 with Barry Norman (S) (67734).
1933 US). Screen history in the making as Gingary. met Fred for the first time, denced a blistering :
Carloca and stole the movie from its nominal stats Dolores Del Rio and Gene Raymond, Bot what a movie. Shimmering monochrome art decoests: suitably lunatic choreography (this is the one with the charus girls dancing on the wings of the 1/

aeroplane) and an exhilarating Vincent Youmans score. Drop the shooping and enjoy (4712753). ** 1.55 ETM A Night to Remember (Roy Baler 1958 UK). The first half of a Kenneth More double-bill is this solid, Eric Ambler-scripted account of the sinking of the Titanic (29711550).

3.55 EMM Genevieve (Henry Cornelius 1953 UK).
Famously a byword for the gentility of British
cinema in the 4.950s, this gentle social cornedy. about two couples racing in the London to Brightion classic car rally is also a wonderfully happy exercise in cinematic story thing (5794043), * 5.20 TOTP 2 (\$) (9638024), *

7.00 News and Sport, Weather (927869). * 7.15 Assignment. Julian Pettifer reports on the vast worldwide trade in humans, following illegal mmigrants as they make their way from

Bangladesh to Europe (S) (240686). * 8.00 What the Papers Say. Jonathan Freedland of the

Observer reads the papers (S) (292005). *
8.10 TV is Dead, Long Live TV. See Preview, above

12.45 Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein (Charles T Barton 1948 US). Two railway porters unwittingly deliver authentic monsters to a wax museum. Bud and Lou are joined by Lon Chaney Jr. Bela Lugosi (Followed by Weatherview) (8591222). To 2.10am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 News. 6.10 Mole in the Hole. 6.30 Professor Bubble. 7.10 Disney's Wake Up in the Wild Room. 8.20 Gargoyles. 8.50 Alien Rangers.

9.25 Wow. Electronic child-minder with 5imeon Courtle

9.25 Wow. Electronic child-minder with Simeon Countle and Sophie Aldred (S) (72636005).

11.00 The Noise. Pop show features \$55 and Radio One DJ, Jo Wiley (S) (8598).

11.30 The Chart Show (\$738840).

12.30 Love Bites. White impression of the Chart Show (\$738840).

12.30 Love Bites. White impression of the Chart Show (\$738840).

12.30 Love Bites (\$738250).

1.00 News and Weather (\$73867260).

1.00 News (\$738672 effect of the school's rigidly masculine atmosphered is suitable catastrophic. Cecil Parker, Ian Bandan Agnes Laurent, James Robertson, Justice effective

Handi star (981901),
3.50 seaGuest 2032 (\$1,2957,750)
4.45 ITN News, Sports Results (Cartier (5379647), *
5.05 London, Indian Sports Security (Followed by LWT Weather) (\$1,495,60), *
5.01 New Baywards (\$1,0936753), *
635 Charlespes (\$1,0936753), *
7,15 Blind Daile (Incheding Lottery Result) (\$) (296579), *

8.15 Family Fortunes (S) (516685). * 8.45 ITN News, Weather, Lottery Result (Followed by

90-minute special in which carneras follow crews on call at fire stations around the country. See

Preview, above (S) (9463).

10.30 First Fatal Attraction (Adrian 1987 US). 9.00 Have I Got News for You. Elvis Costello and
Gordon Kennedy from last night (S) (1208).*

9.30 Screen Two: Look Me in the Eye See Preview,
above (S) (3253181).*

10.45 Video Diaries: Goostbuster—the Real Thing. See
Preview, above (S) (575598).*

11.45 Later with Jools Holland –49 Not Out. Highlights
from his shows, including Alants Morissette, Oasis
Portisticad and Costello Meet Frankerstein

10.30 EIMM Fatal Attraction (Adrian Line 1987 US).
Lynus of minist slasher in the every
in that can go will a sexually transmission of the capture of the control of the control of the capture
3.05 El News Review (9173951). 3.55 Cool Vibes (S) (86739154).

4.00 God's Gift (R) (3693222). 4.55 Night 5hift (R) (S) (60055845). 5.05 Coach (R) (S) (2180154). 5.30 News (32338). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.55 The Magic School 8us (3206289).
7.30 Really Wild Animals (7915314).
7.50 First Edition (2555227).
8.05 King Arthur and the Knights of Justice (9681376).

(9681376).
8.35 Hang Time. Basketball drama (6298192).
9.00 The Blog St. Line. Horses to back (87260).
10.05 Feb. 10 Thalia. Italian football (84840).
11.0 East of the Blog St. (71376).
1280 St. 10 Thalia. Spirt on the disturbing number of deaf on One sect on the disturbing number of deaf omen who have been abused by their partners

Captains of the Clouds (Michael Curtiz 1942 US). James Cagney played out his contract for Warners with a number of patriotic war-effort pieces. This one, directed by Curtiz in the same year he knocked out Casablanca, casts Cagney as a Royal Canadian Air Force pliot blasting tha

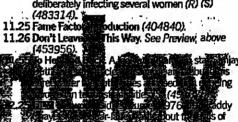
Gerries out of the sky and suffering discipline publicms on the ground (74437111). Racing from Newmarket. Coverage of the 2.40
Ben Marshall Stakes, the 2.50 Tote West Yorkshire
Hurdle Race, the 3.10 Zetland Stakes, tha 3.25
Charlia Hall Chase, the 3.45 Ladbroke Auturn
Handicap Stakes, the 4.00 Wensleydale Juvenile Novices Hurdle, and the 4.15 Burrough Green Handicap Stakes (S) (74221821). 4.35 Four-Mations: Electric Passions. New series starts

by looking at the Increasing use of computergenerated animation in movies such as Toy Story, Jumanji and Dragonheart (S) (4517395). 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (1467078).*

6.30 Right to Reply (S) (21). *
7.00 News Summary and Weather (274983).
7.10 A Week in Politics (S) (990531). O Power Into Art. How they've been turning the Bankside power station into the new Tate Gallery

Greene's wife wants a divorce (R) (\$) (770531). 9.55 Father Ted (R) (S) (503444). *

10.25 NYPD Blue. An HIV man goes on the run after. deliberately infecting several women (R) (S)



newscaster whose ratings rocket after the starts losing it on air. With Faye Dunaway, with Fame Holden, Robert Duvall (8259695 it. 2.40 The Audition Canadian short about an actor suffering from delusions of fame (7535999).

ITV/Regions

AMGLIA As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos (82537): 1.10 Beach Volleybell (397/6550): 1.40 Tour-ing Cass (29960171): 2.10 Sturmenters (5282555): 2.55 Arwolf (1.496531): 12.45am Carrel Knowledge (997135): 1.45am Filtre Black Sunday (31088796): 4.10am Hei-ter Skelter (5164990): 5.00-5.30am Salling (57593):

CHANNEL 3 MORTH EAST/YORKSHIRE

CHANNEL 3 NORTH EAST/VORDSHIPE
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (82531). 1.10 Thunder. In Paradise (5558802). 2.05 Cartoon (56838314). 2.15 Films. Johnny Tiernain (813550). 3.50 Airwolf (2961753). 5.10 Channel 3 North East: Full Time (5683753). Varies: Scoreline (6683753). 12.45am The Making of Escape from LA (78593). 1.15am Furny Business (75465). 1.45am War and Remembrance (546593). 3.40am Late & Loud (2134593). 4.35-5.30am Murder, She Wrote (8398154).

As London except: 12.30nm Premiere (82531), 1.10 As London enteps 12:30pm fremene (22:33), 1.10 Cartoon Time (859/4550), 1.25 Olinosaurs (39112734), 1.55 Eastern Mtx (29366395), 2.25 Movies, Games and Videos (57607531), 2.55 Ainvoll (1498531), 3.50 RoboCop (2951753), 5.10 Central Malth (6283753), 4.00am Jobfinder (2108203), 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (1785390),

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HTV
As London except: 12.30pm West: Hot Dogs and Cool Cats (1510376). Wates: California Officeat (17575734). 12.45 Wates: Rugby 2000 (17570289). 12.50 West: Cartoon Time (17003918). 1.10 West: Go Wild in the Country—The Making of Wind in the Willows (39116550). Wates: The Electric Chair (39116550). 1.40 Movies, Garnes and Videos (29360111). 2.10 Film: True as a Turtle (388289). 3.55 Knight Rider (9053869). 12.45am Carnel Knowledge (997135). 1.45am Film: Black Sunday (41088796). 4.10am Helter Skelter (5164680). 5.00-5.30am Sailing (57593).

RELIGIOUS ASSESSED IN A LONG OF THE SECOND IN A LONG O (29360111), 2.10 World of Saling (70157840), 2.40 Warner Cartoon (2388043), 2.50 Airwolf (6340869), 12.45am Carnel Knowledge (997135). 1.45am Film: Black Sunday (41088796). 4.10am Helter Skelter (5164680): 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (57593).

WESTCONFIRY
AS London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (82531). 1.10 Champions of the Future (39116550). 1.40 Wanted Dead or Alive (2936011). 2.10 Film: Gregory's Git (397937). 1.45am Film: Black Sunday (41083796). 4.10am Helter Skelter (5164680), 5.00-5.30am Sailing (57593).

S4C As C4 except: 7.30am Really Wild Animals: Won-ders Down Under (7915314). 10.00 Rookles (69043). 10.30 New Gamesmaster (61550). 12.30 Moviewatch (80173). 1.00 Averagers (18956). 2.00 Travelog Trels (7013444). 2.35 Rac-ing (74221821). 6.30 Real Holiday Show (21), 7.00 News (912937). 7.15 Noson Lawer (3954531). 8.20 Hel Stragery (417043). 8.50 Glas V. Dovland. News (31237), 713 Noon Lawer (330331), 820 He Streen (411043), 8.50 Gias Y Dorlan (937043), 9.25 Film; One Woman's Courage (54428550), 11.10-11.25pm Flush (982043),

Radio

Radio 1

197 6-95 SMILE FMD 97655 Stitc Ni 7.00am kevin Greening 10.00 Oave Pearce 1.00 Jo Whiley 4.00 John Peel 7.00 Lovegroove Dance Party with Danny Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00 The Ra-dio 1 Reggae Dancehall Nite 2.00 Essential Alix: Live in Birmingham 4.00-7.00am Claire Slurg

Radio 2 **战争90 加比用的**

6.00am Mo Outta B.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Steve Wright's Sal-urday Show 1.00 Carnott's Cornedy Charge 1.30 The News Huddlines Choice 1.30 rie News Hodolines 2.00 Judi Spers 4.00 Nick Barra-clough 5.00 Apple Scruffs 6.00 The Strawbs in Concert 7.00 Yauderville Red-Hot and Blue 7.30 Petuta Clark 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Mining Men, Their Art and Music 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-6.00am Mo Outta Radio 3

OD THE THE

7.00am Record Review. 9.00 Building a Library, Gordon Slewart surveys available recordings of songs by Ouparc, Plus Jenn Dealhindge and Edward Seckerson on new releases of Beethoven and Bruckner, including Becihoven overtures from Nikolaus Harnoncourt and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe: the Choral Fantasy from the Monleverdi Choir and The Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romanlique conducted by John Eilet Gardiner.

10.15 Record Release, Beethoven: Overture: Leonore No 1. Beethoven: Symphony No 4 In B

12.00 Private Passions. Home and Away. Opera. Michael

Choice

EuroFile (11.30am R4) this week examines the German government's allergy to Scientology. Public employees in Bavaria now have to pledge they aren't members of L Ron Hubbard's barmy army. So that's Tom Cruise's (left) ambitions for the Bavarian civil service out of the window.

Birkett talks to Simon Rattle about his lorays into the opera house and introduces recordings mances of the last 20 years, including excerpts from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, Janacek's The Cunning Little Vixen, Weill's Ma hagonny Songspiel and the new recording of Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. (7/8). 3.00 The Oepartment Score.

3.30 List at the Opera. 3.50 The Covent Garden Ring, Gotwork in Wagner's operatic tetral-ogy live from the Royal Opera House, Grunnhilde and Siegined struggle to keep alive their dream of a world ruled by love as they battle the evil Hagen, hall-human son of the Nibelung dwarf Alberich. Cast includes Anne Evans, soprano, Wolfgang Fassier, tenor, Kurt Rydi, bass, Ekkehard Wlaschina, barntone Royal Opera Chorus, Orchestra of the Royal Opera

House Bernard Hartink 10.05 Building for the Arts.
10.35 Erskine and Abercrombie.
Chris Parker introduces a concert featuring drumm Peter Erskine and guitarist John

Network tour. 1.00 Through the Night. 6.00-7.00am Sequence. Radio 4

6.55 Weather. 7.00 Today. R 58 Weather

nmerung. The concluding

61.494.866.78, 19866.00 6.00am News Briefing. 6.50 Prayer for the Day.

9.05 Sport on 4. 9.30 Breakaway. 10.00 News; Loose Ends. 11.00 The Week in Westminster. 11.30 EuroFile. William Horsley reports on the anxieties raised m Germany by the activities of The Church of Scientology. Is it a government witch-hunt? Presented by David Walter. See Choice.

12.00 Money Box. 12.25 News Quiz. 12.55 Weather. 1.10 News.
1.10 Any Questions?
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Any Answers?
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Norther

Lights. In Clare Bayley's coinci-

with a Kurdish refugee seeking political asylum. How are the two connected? With Elaine Pyke, Elaine Claxton and Mozaf-

4.00 News: A History of Reading in Five Volumes. (2/5). 4.30 Science Now. 4.30 Science Now. 5.00 File on 4. 5.40 The Wardrobe. (5/6). 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather.

6.00 5tx D'Clock News. 5.50 Ad Lib.

7.20 Ad Lib.
7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature. How does the architecture of a theatre affect the staging of plays? In what way does the design of the building Influence the relationship between actor and audience? Paul Allen examines the issues with reference to a the issues with reference to a variety of theatres, from the re-stored Globe in Bankside, Lon-don, to theatre which happens

in a disused hotel.

7.50 On These Days.

8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Who Sings the Hero? The Sinking of the City of Cairo. A dramatic tale of courage and heroism by Vin-cent McInemey. When the City of Cairo was torpedoed in 1942. the survivors found thems 500 miles from the nearest land. (1/3).

9.35 Classics with Kay. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 9.59 Weather. 10.00 News. 10.15 Alaska, Susan Jane Harri-Son's Imaginative drama ex-son's Imaginative drama ex-plores experiment and romance in snowy Alaska. 11.15 Auntie's Secret Boy

11.30 Stanza on 5tage.

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: The Smeat. By Patrick McGrath.

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00-6.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

1693, 91994z MW) 6.00am Oirty Tackle 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 Sick as a Parrot 12.05 Baker and Kelly Upfront 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Six-0-Six 8.05 The Treatment 9.05 Dailyn UK 10.05 Brief Lives 10.35 Word Up! 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Night Talk with Pattle Coldwell 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-5.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM

COOR STORE THE PARTY FAR 6.00am Sarah Lucas. 9.00 Classic Countdown. 12.00 Gardening Fo-rum. 1.00 Alan Mann. 4.00 Nick num, 1.00 Alan Mann. 4.00 Nick Balley. 7.00 Russian Revelation. 8.00 Evening Concert. R Strauss: Don Juan. Elgar: Cello Concerto in E minor. Schubert: Symphony No 9 In C. 10.00 The Classic Quiz. 12.00 Andre Leon. 4.00 The Travel Guide. 5.00-6.00am Michael

Virgin Radio 11215, 1197-1260kHz MW 165 SMHz DM 6.00am Janey Lee Grace B.00 Russ and Jono 10.00 Jeremy Clark 2.00 Mark Forrest 6.00 Lynn Par-sons 10.00 Robin Banks 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

World Service

(1984bz UM) 1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 Inspiration 2.00 Newsday 2.30 People and Pol-tics 3.00 News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Music Review 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Seeing Stars 4.45 UN THE WOVE JULY NO

Satellite

SW1 1 7.00am Undun (34869). 9.00 Sal-ly Jessy Raphael (30375). 10.00 Designing Women (98579). 10.30 Murphy Brown (21956). 11.00 Parker Lewis Carit Lose (63956). 11.30 Real TV (64685). 12.00 WWF (52914). 1.00 Hit Mix (38734). 2.00 Harcules (99208). 3.00 Lazarus Man (35173). 4.00 WWF (54208). 5.00 Pacific Blue (2598). 6.00 Dumbest Criminals (2821). 6.30 Just Kidding (3173). 7.00 Hercules (99369). 8.00 Unsolved Mysteries (75289). 9.00 Cops (68753). 10.00 Stand and Deliver (13937). 10.30 Revetations (22685). 11.00 Movie Show (55937). 11.30 Young Indiana Jones (51043). 12.30 Dream On (54086). 1.00 Cornedy (74883). 1.30 The Edge (81661). 2.00-7.00am Hit Mix (53864).

SKY MOVIES 6.00am Crooks Anonymous (1962) (96192). B.00 Barnabo of the Mountains (1991) (75119005). Mountains (1991) (75119005).
10.05 The Neptune Factor (1973) (94998043). 12.00 Other Women's Children (1993) (96111).
2.00 Revenge of the Nerds IV (1994) (72192). 4.00 The Power Within (1994) (7802). 6.00 The Air Up There (1994) (92956). 8.00 Blue Sky (1994) (64173). 10.00 Street Fighter (1994) (918821).
11.45 Sexual Malica (1993) (586666). 1.25 Street Fighter (1994) (724319). 3.05-6.00am The Ballad of Little Joe (1993) (75937375).

MOVIE CHANNEL MOVE CHANNEL 6.00am It's in the Air (1938) (94734). 8.00 Bette Starr (1941) (71802). 10.00 Little Miss Milifors (1992) (42937). 12.00 The Pride of Jesse Hallam (1981) (94753). 2.00 Stargate (1994) (70734). 4.00 Epersmite. New Mark (1989) (99494050). 5.45 Licance in Kgi-(1989) (60405024). 8.00 Stargate

(75937375).

(1994) (95043). 10.00 Maverick (1993) (12407821). 12.10 What's Eating Gilbert Grape? (1994) (44406796). 2.15 Night Eyes II (1991) (779715). 3.55-6.00am The Olsappearance of Vonnie (1994) (75700845).

SICY MOVIES 60LD 4.00pm From This Day Forward (1946) (8647956), 6.00 Hud (1963) (2987260), 8.00 Bloodhounds of Broadway (1989) (2999005). 10.00 Overboard (1987) (1768591). 11.55 Space hunter: The Adventures of the Forbidden Zone (1983) (4706314). 1.30 Thunder Bay (1953) (6524203). 3.15-4.35am Rock Around The Clock (1956)

0K 6010
7.00am Give Us A Ciue
(8659537). 7.30 Going for Gold
(4099647). 7.55 Sullivans
(63903665). 10.00 Neighbours
(1854163). 12.00 EastEnders
(31786482). 2.55 Minder
(68155647). 4.00 Robin's Nest
(8718840). 4.30 Sory!
(524666). 5.15 The A Team
(72037024). 6.15 Bullsene (5244666). 5.15 The A Team (7203024). 6.15 Bullseye (1828956). 6.45 Some Mothers Do ?we 'Em (5837869). 7.25 Whatever Happened to the Liebel Luds? (5515685). 8.05 Shoesting (70461260). 9.10 Film: The Big Easy (1987). (30064111). 11.05 Kojak (9495647). 12.10 Mitami Vice (6534999). 1.05 Album Show (2357319). 2.05-7.00am Shop-ping at Night (62249131).

SXY SPORTS 1 aar srukii 51
7.00am-World Sport (43531), 7.30
Cavalcade (33918), 8.30 Racing
(63821), 9.00 loe Hockey (76192),
10.00 Rugby (51550), 11.00 Hold
the Back Page (71314), 12.00
Sports Saturday (8721550), 5.30
loe huts (4121 Bushido (69685). 11.30 Surfing (64531). 12.30-2.30am Boxing

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Soccer AM (5136463). 11.00 Cavalcade (6629956). 12.00 Inside the PGA (3787647). 12.30 Inside the PGA (1118482), 1,00 Golf (1113937), 2,00 Ice Hockey (7715192), 3,00 Skiff Selling (7713192). 3.30 Skilli saking (2684840). 3.30 Finish Line (3688376). 4.00 Golf (2818260). 5.00 Asian Golf (2675192). 6.00 Spanish Football (9952227). 8.30 Futbol Mundial (2671376). 9.00 Cavalcade (4385531), 10.00 Formula Three Racing (4395918). 11.00 Sport Memories (6600821). 12.00-1.00am FA Cup Classics (8080222).

12.00ncon Sailing (56966550). 12.30 Finish Line (25568821). 12.30 Finish Line (25568821).
1.00 Motor Sport (87601956), 5.00 Velo-Cycling (36692802), 5.30 Salling (10112227), 6.00 Finish Line (10102840), 6.30 Golf (10193192), 7.00 Live Golf (20893338), 9.00 Live Golf (38023579), 11.00 Skiff Salling (50552444), 11.30-12.00mldmight Finish Line (99130918).

LIVE TV
6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Mind and Body 8.00 Winy Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Fate and Fortune 9.30 Rashion 10.00 Revelations 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Mind and Body 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Campus Capes 12.30 Winy Files 1.00 Looking for Love 13.00 Fate and Fortune 2.00 Festion 2.30 Mind and Body 3.00 Chequared Fag 3.30 Fin Money 4.00 Monster Sport 5.30 Sewrites Prop 6.00 Rashion 6.30 Monster Sport 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Ravelstors 8.00 Businide 9.03 Winy Files 9.30 L. vina. for Love 10.03 Monster 1.00 Spanish Prop 6.00 Fast November 1.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Ravelstors 8.00 Businide 9.03 Monster 1.00 Spanish Prop 6.00 Fast November 1.00 Spanish Prop 7.30 Ravelstors 8.00 Businide 9.03 Monster 1.00 Spanish Prop 1.00 Spanish P LIVETV

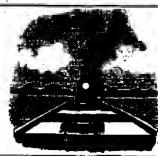
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